The New-York Times.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

IMPORTANT OPERATIONS IN TEXAS.

Our Forces Occupy the Approaches to Matagorda.

Fort Esperanza Blown Up by the Rebels.

TEN PIECES OF ARTILLERY CAPTURED.

ESCAPE OF THE GARRISON

Arrival of Gen. Banks at New-Orleans.

AN ELECTION TO BE HELD IN LOUISIANA.

TRADE ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 12.

A dispatch was to-day received at the headquarters of the army from Maj.-Gen. BANKS, commanding the Department of the Gulf, inclosing a dispatch which had just been received from Maj.-Gen. WASHBURNE, at Fort Esperanza, Pass Cavallo, Matagorda Bay.

The command of the Bay gives us, substantially, the control of Central and Western Texas, and all of the important points on the east coast, except Galveston.

FORT ESPERANZA, Wednesday, Dec. 2.

At 1 A. M. Nov. 30, the rebels blew up the magazines of this fort, having evacuated two hours before.

It is a very large and complete work, bomb-proof, and partially cased with railroad iron. It had a garrison of one thousand men, who escaped, all but six. By reason of the continuance of the gale, the gunboats could not furnish me with launches to enable me to cut off their communications, nor could they take part in the attack. On the 29th we drove them from all their outworks, and advanced our sharpshooters well up to the fort. We captured ten guns, varying from twenty-four to one hundred and twenty-eight pounders.

ARRIVAL OF THE COLUMBIA AND YAZOO.

The steamer *Columbia*, from New-Orleans on the 5th inst., arrived yesterday morning.

The steamer *Yazoo*, from New-Orleans on the 4th inst., also arrived last evening.

Advices from Texas represent the health of our army as excellent, and the troops were ready and eager to push into the interior.

Matamoras accounts state that CORTINAS has turned over the Government to JESUS DE LA SERNA, the old constitutionally elected Governor. The impression was that JUAREZ would confirm this movement.

Gen. BANKS arrived at New-Orleans on the 1st instant, from Brazos, not in very good health. His illness, however, was not serious, and there was no doubt felt that a short respite from the arduous labor that had devolved upon him, would restore him again to health and usefulness.

During the week ending Dec. 3, there arrived 1,458 bales cotton, and 3,060 bags cotton in seed. Cleared for New-York 5,681 bales cotton, Boston 196—together, 5,887 bales cotton.

An interesting argument upon the constitutionality of the Confiscation Act was in progress before the District Court.

In the libel suit brought by Dr. Bacon against WM. BAKER, a newspaper correspondent, the defendant had been discharged. In concluding his decision, Judge ATOCHA said:

"With all the facts before me, I must acquit Mr. BAKER of all malice in the publications which he made, but a man of his sense can scarcely hold himself guiltless of having improperly used the agency placed in his hands, and of having indiscreetly given currency to unfounded rumors. In this city there have been strange bickerings among Union men against officers of the Department, and even against the Commanding General. Instead of going shoulder to shoulder in the work of reconstruction and regeneration, petty squabbles have been indulged in and petty jealousies fostered. All this should be reformed. I think that Mr. BAKER has too much good sense not to perceive that he has done great injustice to a most worthy officer, and trust that his experience in this trial will incuce him to be more guarded in his future correspondence. Acquitting him of all malicious intent, I must discharge him."

A notorious character named JIM DUKE, who acted a prominent part in stealing the tugboat *Boston* and burning the barks *Texana* and *Lenox*, was recently killed by falling from a train of cars near Mobile.

The *McClellan* arrived at New-Orleans on the 1st instant, and, as stated, brought Gen. BANKS and Staff and 100 prisoners taken at Aransas Pass.

The *Columbia* passed the steamers *Merrimac*, *Blackstone* and *E. L. Clark*, in the river.

We are again indebted to the obliging Pursers of the *Columbia* and *Yazoo* for favors.

FROM TEXAS.

From the New-Orleans Era, Dec. 3.

By a recent arrival from our army in Texas, we gather the following in regard to the condition of affairs in that section:

It will be remembered that the *Era's* account of the revolutions in Matamoras stated that CORTINAS intended turning the control of the State Government over to the old constitutionally-elected Governor of Tamaulipas, as soon as he should arrive in Matamoras.

On the 22d ult., this gentleman, JESUS DE LA SERNA, arrived and at once took possession of the gubernatorial chair. He was received with public demonstrations of respect and esteem, and the citizens were apparently highly gratified at the prospect of a short term of peace and tranquillity.

The impression pretty generally prevailed that the Supreme Government—the Juarez Government—would indorse the movement and confirm JESUS DE LA SERNA in his office as head of the State Government. There were some, however, who believed that JUAREZ would in no way sanction it or recognize him, and should this prove the case a new revolution will shortly ensue, or worse—a civil war.

The health of the Union army is represented as being excellent. The soldiers have entirely recovered from the fatigue and exhaustion consequent upon their sea voyage and the forced marches which followed, and they are not only strong and in good spirits, but eager to push on into the interior of the country.

Whether an onward movement will be made from there is not known, but it is known that all the rebel troops in Texas would prove insufficient to dislodge them from the position they occupy.

A correspondent of the *Era* writes from Point Isabel under date of Nov. 16:

"On the 11th inst., Gen. BANKS and Gen. DANA, with their entire staffs, visited Matamoras, and were received with artillery salutes by CORTINAS and the soldiers, and with acclamations by the people, the bands of the city playing 'Yankee Doodle.' A grand fandango was given in the evening, and called a ball of friendship for the United States. Gen. BANKS, Col. DUDLEY and Col. DAVIS attended it, and were treated with the greatest deference by all.

Rumors are rife once more that the French are marching on Matamoras, but nothing positive is known. Preparations are made for a strong defence, and the Mexicans consider themselves strong enough to repulse any force the French can bring against them.

The price of everything is very high in Brownsville—much higher than in Matamoras. This is owing to the heavy duties imposed on all goods sent over the river. The arrival of a few enterprising sutlers will be a God-send to our soldiers, and bring eatables down to a reasonable rate.

A large amount of flour, the property of traitors, was found stored in a warehouse in Brownsville and seized by our authorities. It is now being baked into bread at the Government oven, in Fort Brown, and is sold to the people at eight cents per pound, in United States currency. The bakery, etc., are under control of Capt. CHARLES ALTMAN, Provost-marshal of the expedition, an experienced and judicious officer. Commissary stores are also sold to the people cheaper greenbacks, the effect of which has been to create a demand for them at better rates than would be paid in New-York.

Gold and silver is the only currency that has been used for a long time, "Confederate Treasury notes" being considered hardly as valuable as so much blank paper. Now the people freely exchange coin for greenbacks at a discount of 25 to 30 per cent. on the latter.

A capture of fifty-six bales of cotton was made a couple of days ago by Col. CLARK'S regiment, the Thirty-fourth Iowa. It was on its way from Victoria to Brownsville, nine wagon loads, drawn by ox teams. The drivers were considerably astonished at seeing the Union soldiers, not having received any intimation of their presence on the route. They report numerous trains coming, all of which will doubtless fall into our hands.

A large amount of the staple is piled up on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande, waiting shipment out of the country. It was hurried over the river with great rapidity when our fleet first made its appearance, boats of all descriptions commanding enormous prices. This, however, lasted but a very short time, the advance of our men putting a stop to it.

The custom has been to transport the cotton to the Mexican side of the Rio Grande immediately on its arrival at the river, it having to go there before it can be shipped out of the country. Owing to this fact very little will fall into our hands at present, but very large quantities are said to be still in the interior. The estimates of the quantity to be seen on the Mexican bank of the river range from ten to forty thousand bales.

Capt. BAKER has planned an extensive addition to Fort Brown, which will be constructed at once. Heavy guns will be mounted, and every preparation made for a successful defence, although not the slightest apprehensions are felt that an advance of the rebels will be made. At present there is no force of the enemy whatever in this section of the State, all the troops having been moved to the Sabine, where they expected this expedition would land.

Nearly every one of the citizens of Brownsville that remained here have taken the oath of allegiance to the United States Government, and they seem quite sincere in their professions of pleasure at our arrival. There is no doubt but that they were heartily sick of the rebel *regime*, and had made up their minds that to them any change would be for the better.

AN ELECTION IN LOUISIANA.

The *Era* says that the Louisiana Free State Central Committee has determined that an election shall be held in that State on the 25th of next January. The election will be held under authority of Gov. SHEPLEY, and will be for the election of delegates to a State Convention for the purpose of forming a Constitution for Louisiana. The *Era*, explaining the movement, says:

"The Free-State Committee does not act on its own authority; it has no power to order an election, any more than had the midnight conclave at Masonic Hall. The Committee simply petitioned the Governor to call it on the day mentioned, and he expressed a willingness to do so as soon as a sufficient number of votes should be registered in the State. It is believed that the requisite number will be obtained in time to hold the election on or about the 25th day of January; but of course no election can be held without the call of the Governor.

We make this statement in justice to the Free-State Committee, who are proceeding in a perfectly proper and legal manner, and, unlike the Masonic Hall clique, have no intention of holding an election without the proper authority."

THE LEVEE.

From the Era, Dec. 4.

Since the close of business on Saturday evening several mammoth St. Louis steamers have arrived, loaded down to the guards with freight, including several thousand barrels of flour, immense quantities of potatoes, apples and assorted Western produce. The arrivals of live stock have also been liberal, as will be seen by reference to our marine column.

The levee, yesterday, presented a lively appearance, from the upper steamboat landing all the way down to the lower Picayune Tier. We do not remember ever before to have seen such a display of flour, it being piled up, barrel upon barrel, for the distance of several squares—the *J. C. Swon*, *Continental*, *Sultana*, *Gladiator* and *Schuyler*, all having discharged heavy cargoes. The lower steamboat landing, where the products of our own State are discharged from the numerous boats in the lower trade, made a good showing, and the space is pretty well covered with hogsheads of sugar, barrels of molasses and cotton in all sorts of packages.

Among the numerous other failures the rebels have encountered since they began to make war upon their country, may now be classed the odious attempts to fire into unarmed steamers engaged in commerce. Not a single boat has been stopped, and, with one or two exceptions, no lives have been lost. The heroic captains and pilots of the St. Louis steamers carry their splendid boats and valuable cargoes fearlessly through the gauntlets of musketry, and grape and shell, fired from the banks, in gallant defiance of the impotent hate of those who are employed, and poorly paid, to destroy them. Some of the boats, we learn, carry small pieces, which have been taught to speak with effect when these land pirates show signs of hostility. So indifferent have these brave men become to these attacks, that they vote a trip that is made without seeing guerrillas as dull and monotonous. They seem rather to enjoy the exhilarating effects of being shot at, as it has been proved, in numerous instances, that the only loss falls on the rebels—that of ammunition, which is said to be very dear.

THE COTTON MARKET.

NEW-ORLEANS TIMES OFFICE,
Thursday Evening, Dec. 3, 1863.

The market has not been very well supplied during the week that closes this evening, and with a continued fair demand prices have been fully maintained, the advantages being rather on the side of sellers, while the bulk of the stock has been held above the ruling rates. The unfavorable accounts from New-York during the earlier part of the week appeared to have little or no influence, while those which have come through to-day have only checked the demand and induced holders to be less stringent in their pretensions. The upward course of the Exchange market has, no doubt, to some extent neutralized the effect which might otherwise have been caused by the decline in New-York. The week's sales sum up about 2,100 bales, including 555 at private sale and auction on Friday, at 66¾c.@68¾c. for good ordinary to strict good ordinary, 68¾c.@71c. for low middling to strict low middling, 69¾c.@71¾c. for middling, and 71¾c.@73¾c. for strict middling; 50 bales, public and private, on Saturday, at about previous rates; 83 at private sale on Monday, at firm prices; 253 at private sale and auction on Tuesday, at 69c.@70½c. for strict good ordinary, 69¾c.@71c. for low middling, and 72c. for middling; 563 at private and public sale on Wednesday, at 68¾c. for good ordinary, 70c.@70¾c. for low middling, 70¾c.@70¾c. for strict low middling, 71c.@71¾c. for middling, 73¾c. for strict middling, and the same for some good middling; and 509 bales to-day.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Capture of the Blockade-Runner Minna—Sinking of the Monitor Weehawken.

FORTRESS MONROE, Saturday, Dec. 12.

The steamship *Circassian*, Capt. EATON, from the Rio Grande on the 25th ultimo, has just arrived here.

On the 9th instant, when one day out from Charleston, the *Circassian* captured the large blockade-runner *Minna*, with a very valuable assorted cargo.

The *Circassian* towed the *Minna* into Hampton Roads. The Captain of the latter tried to sink her, but the *Circassian's* men got on board in time to stop it.

Last Sunday the monitor *Weekawken* sunk near Charleston Bar. Thirty-three men were lost, including three Engineers and one Surgeon.

The *Circassian* experienced very heavy weather.

The Bark Emerald on Fire.

BOSTON, Saturday, Dec. 12.

The bark *Emerald* arrived this forenoon from New-Orleans. She was on fire, but the flames are now nearly extinguished.

The steamer *Charles Pearson* is alongside of her, and will tow her to the wharf.

BOSTON, Saturday, Dec. 12—P. M.

The fire on board the bark *Emblem*, which it was thought had been extinguished this forenoon, broke out again this afternoon, and she has been filled with water and sunk at Long Dock wharf.

INTERESTING FROM THE SOUTH.

THE CONSPIRATORS IN CONGRESS.

Jeff. Davis the Marplot of the Army and the Destroyer of the Country.

An Opinion Thereon of Mr. Foote, of Tennessee.

Rebel Testimony to the Ill Treatment of Our Prisoners.

THE POSITION OF LONGSTREET'S COMMAND

One Hundred Thousand Dollars in Greenbacks Captured in a Raid.

The Operations in Charleston Harbor.

FORTRESS MONROE, Saturday, Dec. 12.

The Richmond *Enquirer* of the 10th and 11th inst. is received, from which we obtain the following:

THE REBEL CONGRESS.

RICHMOND, Friday, Dec. 11.

Yesterday the Senate passed the bill prohibiting the employment of substitutes in the army.

In the rebel Congress on the 8th inst., Mr. FOOTE, of Tennessee, in a speech, said that *the President never visited the army without doing it injury*. Never has he visited any of our armies but what it has been followed by disaster. He charged him *with almost having ruined the country*, and he would meet his champion anywhere to discuss it.

He accused Commissary Northrup with having starved the enemy's prisoners, and with stealthily placing the Confederate Government in the attitude charged by the enemy. From the 1st to the 26th of November meat was furnished to the prisoners very irregularly. *For twelve days the supply was inadequate and for eight days they got none at all.* He demanded the removal of Mr. NORTHRUP, for the honor of the country.

LONGSTREET'S ARMY.

BRISTOL, Thursday, Dec. 10.

LONGSTREET'S forces are in line of battle at Rutledge. His rear is skirmishing with the enemy, whose pursuit has not been vigorous since our forces left Morristown.

Our cavalry were skirmishing all day Monday with the advance of WILCOX'S forces on Clinch River.

Capt. EVERETT'S raiding party returned to Abingdon, attacked the enemy at Mt. Sterling, Ky., and routed them after a stubborn resistance. The courthouse and jail were burned.

Capt. EVERETT captured a number of horses and $100,000 in greenbacks. The enemy being heavily reinforced, he returned rapidly through Pound Gap, closely pursued by 1,200 cavalry, who are now at Gladesville, Va.

From the Richmond Examiner, Dec. 8.

We have to-day only one piece of news of interest, and that relates to the present position of Gen. LONGSTREET. We are at last able to inform our readers where he is. An official dispatch was received from him yesterday, dated "Rutledge, Dec. 6." Rutledge is thirty miles northeast of Knoxville, on the road to Bristol, and one hundred miles from the latter place. At the date of his dispatch he had halted at Rutledge, but he will inevitably fall back to Bristol on the approach of the enemy. In his present position he is liable to an attack in front from BURNSIDE, in flank from Cumberland Gap, and in rear from the pursuing forces of GRANT, who, the telegraph informs us, are making their way toward his rear by the same route by which he himself proceeded against BURNSIDE. Notwithstanding his apparently critical position, we think we may regard him as safe. He has the shortest route before him to Southwestern Virginia and a clear start of his pursuers. *What Longstreet has effected in East Tennessee may be summed up in the word nothing.*

AFFAIRS BEFORE CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, Saturday, Dec. 5.

No change of importance. A shot from Moultrie demolished a Yankee calcium light last night. Only six shots were fired on Sumter to-day. The fort is now considered safe against all assaults.

CHARLESTON, Wednesday, Dec. 9.

This afternoon the enemy opened fire on the city, and threw eight shells. Moultrie and James Island batteries returned the fire, silencing the enemy. Five buildings were struck. No persons injured.

CHARLESTON, Thursday, Dec. 10.

The enemy shelled the city between 10 and 11 o'clock last night and 3 and 4 o'clock this morning. Twenty shots were thrown. Our batteries opened heavily upon the enemy during the shelling of the city.

SECOND DISPATCH.

We have kept up a constant fire to-day, driving the enemy's working parties from Gregg and Wagner. No firing of any consequence to-day on Sumter, and no shelling of the city.

A CHEERFUL VIEW.

When men, says the Savannah *Republican*, shall grow cool and begin to think, when the whirl and excitement of war shall be over, and history enter upon her sober work of recording the past, the siege of Charleston, now regarded by the Yankees as the grand work of the war, will stand forth the baldest and most stupendous fooleryof any age. Thousands upon thousands of lives and millions of treasure have been expended in the herculean undertaking, and the vast outlay seems destined to progress without material results, to the close of the war, for the crazy fanatics who are enacting the drama seem utterly impervious to the light of reason. *Cui bono?* is a question which they have never stopped for a moment to ask themselves. The very best reason that we have seen why Sumter should be taken is that the enemy "need it for the name of it." No sensible man can point out one great advantage in the fall of that work, and yet the Yankees have been pounding away upon it for months with the greatest navy, in point of strength, that the world ever saw, and with an outlay of money that is positively astounding. It is already harmless, except to assailing parties of infantry, and if taken, it never could be occupied for a day together; and yet they abate not one jot of effort for its reduction. A strange infatuation seems to possess them, and the silly fools actually talk of ending the revolution where it begun—at Sumter. Was there ever such a delusion?

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

A Grand Review—Sale of Confiscated Lands—Government a Large Purchaser—Miscellaneous.

FOLLY ISLAND, Sunday, Dec. 6, 1863.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

A GRAND REVIEW

of the command on Morris Island by Gen. GILLMORE took place yesterday. Gen. GILLMORE, accompanied by his entire staff, proceeded to the ground at an early hour in the morning and immediately commenced the review.

It is a simple and common phrase to say the troops "looked well," but in this instance I can remark, without exaggeration, that the command presented a magnificent appearance, and exhibited in the various evolutions a degree of efficiency that it would be difficult to excel. It would be a venturesome task to write anything novel in connection with a review, so often has that ceremony been made the subject of newspaper correspondence, consequently nothing remains but to pronounce the review of yesterday one of the finest ever witnessed on this island.

GEN. VOGDES

also reviewed his forces last week. The brigades were formed in line on the beach in front of Gen. GILLMORE'S Headquarters. Gen. VOGDES, it will be remembered, made himself conspicuous as a military engineer, at the time the Union works were in course of construction on Folly Island. For his valuable services on that occasion, he has received unbounded praise from the Commanding-General here and the authorities at Washington. Gen. VOGDES held the position of Instructor at West Point for several years, and probably no man in the service understands more perfectly than himself the art of disciplining troops. At the review in question, his forces exhibited unmistakable evidences of first-class soldiers.

CONFISCATED PROPERTY.

On Tuesday last the sale of confiscated property, on and near Hilton Head Island was commenced. The property was put up at auction, by the Government, and it seems the Government was the highest bidder and about the only purchaser. Private individuals, who have invested in plantations in the vicinity of Hilton Head, coast of the immense profits accrued to them therefrom, and Government seems to have appreciated the chance, and like the rest gone in for its share of the gains.

A GREAT ASSEMBLAGE

convened in front of Gen. GILLMORE'S Headquarters yesterday afternoon for the purpose of witnessing and appropriately celebrating the raising of the national colors upon a lofty flagstaff situated in the centre of a square formed by the position of the tents occupied by the staff officers. Capt. HAMILTON'S United States battery was drawn up in line on the beach, and the moment the flag reached the summit of the staff, commenced firing the national salute. A band of music attached to Alfred's brigade was in attendance, and discoursed martial airs from the beginning to the close of the proceedings. Among the distinguished officers present, other than Gen. GILLMORE and his staff, were Gens. TERRY, VOGDES, SEYMOUR, GORDAN and members of their respective staffs. The staff supporting the flag was built under the direction of Sergt. SANDS, of Company C, New-York engineer regiment. Sergt. CHURCHILL, Company H, of the same regiment, assisted in its erection. A detachment of the Engineers were drawn up in line on one side of the pole, and a detachment of the Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania regiment on the other side during the continuance of the ceremonies. Nearly all present stood with heads uncovered. After the firing had ceased, and the band had played a lively air, Gen. GILLMORE stepped forward to a position a few paces in front of the flag-staff, where he was joined by a few general officers. At the base of the staff stood GEO. SHEA, Esq., of New-York, and Provost-Marshal-General HALL, the former of whom delivered an address appropriate to the occasion. The band then played a few select airs, after which three rousing cheers were given for Gen. GILLMORE, and the assemblage dispersed.

WHIT.

OUR PRISONERS AT RICHMOND.

The Distribution of Clothing and Food Sent from the North.

INTERESTING CORRESPONDENCE.

The Rebels Not Guilty of Keeping the Supplies.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 12, 1863.

The following letter was forwarded to Gen. MEREDITH by ROBERT OULD, and his special attention requested to its contents:

"QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
C. S. MILITARY PRISONS,
RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 3, 1863.

"COLONEL: Having heard a complaint from headquarters that the provisions received from your Government were not issued to the Federal officers confined in this prison, and that your fellow-prisoners, with you, have suffered in consequence thereof, you will please state the facts of this case, and at what time the provisions arrived, when they were received by you, and whether issued in proper quantities. Also request Col. BOYD to state at what time he saw the provisions issued at Belle Isle.

I have the honor to be, Colonel, your most obedient servant,

J. THOMAS, Capt. and A. A. Q. M.

Lieut.-Col. J. M. SANDERSON, Prisoner of War, Richmond, C. S. Military Prison.

REPLY OF LIEUT.-COL. SANDERSON.

LIBBY, Dec. 3, 1863.

CAPTAIN: In answer to your note of this date, I would state that as near as I can recollect, you personally offered, on Sunday, Nov. 22, to distribute to the officers in this prison, twenty-seven barrels, containing pork, salt, beef, flour and corn meal, sent by the Baltimore *American* Relief Fund, but having no convenience for issuing it, I decline receiving it.

On the following day, however, I inspected, in company with other officers, and directed Mr. BURNHAM, your assistant, to issue it in rations of half a pound per man to the two officers acting as Commissioners for the prisoners, and I can cheerfully state that the instructions have thus far been faithfully complied with, and these provisions have been issued in addition to the regular rations allowed us by the authorities here.

Very respectfully yours,

J. M. SANDERSON, Lieut.-Col. U. S. A.

LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE ON DISTRIBUTION.

LIBBY PRISON, RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 4, 1863.

Capt. C. McRae Selph, Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: In answer to your communication of this date, referring to statements that have been made in regard to the distribution of clothing and rations sent to Richmond by the United States Government for Federal prisoners of war, the Committee in charge of the distribution of clothing desire to submit the following statement:

"When the Committee entered on their duties Nov. 10, only a small supply of clothing had been received at Richmond. To secure an equitable distribution of this to those who are most needy, and to ascertain what future consignments would be required for their comfort, it was deemed advisable to make an inspection of all the prisoners. A careful inspection was therefore made of all the prisoners of war on Belle Island and in Richmond, and a record made of the condition of each article of their clothing. While this was in progress, issues of blankets and such clothing as had been received, were made to the most needy. Since the arrival of the last lot, Nov. 22, two members of the committee have been constantly engaged in the distribution, which is now almost complete. The committee is unable to prepare a statement of the amount of clothing issued in time for this communication. Statements in detail will be provided, however, as soon as possible of the amount of clothing received and issued, and to whom issued, and the amount required to fully supply the wants of the prisoners of war now here, a copy of which we respectfully request may be forwarded by flag of truce to the proper United States military authorities.

A shipment of clothing is now being made to Danville, sufficient to supply the wants of the prisoners of war at that place. The Committee take pleasure in stating that every facility for the inspection of the prisoners and the distribution of the clothing has been afforded them by the rebel military authorities.

The duties of the Committee were limited by the order putting them on duty exclusively to the distribution of clothing.

The fact that rations forwarded by the United States Government and societies in the North were being issued to the prisoners of war on Belle Isle, in the prisons in Richmond, has, however, frequently come under the observation of members of the committee, while in the discharge of the duty assigned them.

Very respectfully your obedient servants,

(Signed) A. VAN SHUNDER,
Lieut.-Col. A. J. G. 14th A. C.
H. B. HUNTER,
Lieut.-Col. 123d O. J. V.
J. F. BOYD,
Col. and Quartermaster.
JAS. M. SANDERSON,
Lieut.-Col. and C. S. V. A. C.

A Letter from Brig.-Gen. Dow.

LIBBY PRISON, RICHMOND, Va.,
Thursday, Nov. 12, 1863.

To the Agent of the Sanitary Commission, Richmond, Va.:

I have written you more than once through the regular channel, but fear the letters may not go. A private opportunity offers now. The goods received from you were of the utmost service to the officers here, a great many of whom were in very sad condition.

We need about 200 more shirts, same number of drawers, and as many blankets, unless we are to be exchanged soon; also some socks. *We have only corn bread (unsifted), a little rice, and a few poor sweet potatoes and water for our rations.* The bread is about half a pound; the rice half a gill. I had to-day eight potatoes; only two were good for anything—medium size—the others not larger than one's finger!!

We are annoyed and indignant that while we are treated in this manner, the Confederate officers in our hands are furnished with abundant rations, excellent in quality and variety, with good quarters, beds and blankets; while we are turned into this building, to sleep on the floor without blankets. Only one room here has glass; all the other windows are open to to the full sweep of the north wind. No fires.

If perfectly convenient, I should like from the Commission a small box of preserved meats, fruits, &c., &c.

NEAL DOW,
Brig.-Gen. U. S. A.

State Aid to the Prisoners.

From the Albany Argus.

We are permitted to publish the following letters, which will interest the public, because of the assurance which they give to our citizens that their contributions for the relief of our imprisoned soldiers are received by them.

The Governor has authorized the general agent, JOHN F. SEYMOUR, to give $500 to the Baltimore Relief Commission, $500 to the Christian Commission, and $500 to the Sanitary Commission, to be used by these respective Commissions in relieving the wants of the New-York State soldiers who are in prison.

An agent, Mr. M. J. FERRY, was sent to Annapolis immediately on the first arrival of prisoners at that place, and no pains have been spared to relieve the sufferings of these unfortunate men:

NORFOLK, Va., Wednesday, Nov. 25, 1863.

MY DEAR SIR: I have at length learned definitely about our officers and soldiers at Richmond. Owing to irregularities of railroad trains on the Hudson River Road, we did not get away from New-York till Wednesday morning, at 7 o'clock. This only gave us time at Baltimore to get our passes and take the Wednesday evening steamer for Fort Monroe—consequently I did not see any of the Relief Committee of Baltimore. When I arrived here, the steamer *Conway* had gone up to City Point with a load of supplies. On her return, I saw the agent of the Sanitary Commission, who went up in her. He stated to me that everything sent is regularly forwarded by the Confederate authorities; that the supplies are delivered to a Board of Union officers, who are among the prisoners; that the Union soldiers are divided into squads, each of which takes an equal share. A non-commissioned officer of each squad receipts to the Board for the squad, and he also takes receipt of each soldier in his squad, for what is distributed to him. In this way every soldier gets his share.

The Government has sent up rations, blankets and clothing, including caps, coats, pants, shoes, socks, drawers and shirts. The Sanitary Commission is sending pillows, ticks, towels, clothing, dried fruits, &c., beef stock and sugar. There should be sent vegetables and pickles. This can be done best from Baltimore. There are not less than two thousand New-York officers among the prisoners. I think the best way will be to send $1,000 to Baltimore to be used in the purchase of potatoes, cabbages, onions, pickles, blacking and brushes, and fine combs. If money is sent to the men they cannot use it themselves. They have to send out by the guards to buy things, and the guards make just such returns as they please. It is not recommended to send money to the men.

The agent of the Sanitary Commission, who is Radical in politics, says that he is satisfied that the Confederates have not intentionally distressed our prisoners, but, on the contrary, have endeavored to do the best they can; that they are themselves hard pressed in Richmond, and that the Surgeons who sent down the men who came in such sad condition, are to be dismissed from their service; nevertheless, that real suffering exists and needs the relief sent. Nobody is allowed to go beyond City Point; and when there, officers and agents are confined to the flag-of-truce steamer, seeing none but the Confederate officers.

The first relief got through was from the Sanitary Commission, consisting of fifteen large boxes of clothing and provisions. This was early in November. The Government are now supplying the regular allowance of rations, clothing, &c.

FLAG-OF-TRUCE-BOAT CONVOY,
CITY POINT, VA., Nov. 22, 1863.

JOHN F. SEYMOUR, ESQ.—*Dear Sir*: I am in receipt of your favor of 19th instant, and am obliged to you for your proffer of your good offices in my behalf. For the last ten days I have been busily engaged in supplying clothing, commissary hospital and medical stores to our prisoners, officers and soldiers, and citizens in Richmond, this making the third trip here with supplies. I do not doubt but a nominal degree of good faith will be observed by the rebel authorities in distributing our supplies. Our intercourse in respect to furnishing and the distribution of supplies is amicable, and the rebel authorities manifest fair intentions. Our General Government is supplying as much of everything needed as the rebel authorities can provide transportation for, from this point, and enough, think, to make our prisoners measurably comfortable, so far as food and clothing are concerned. The Sanitary Commission and Relief Association in Baltimore, Philadelphia and other cities are also sending forward supplies of food, clothing and medicines. Hence I shall have no need to call on the New-York State Agency, as I should certainly do if there was any occasion. The rebel Commissioner, Judge OULD, came down from Richmond to-day, and I had an interview with him. He expressed the opinion that the late dispatch which has been referred to him from Gen. HITCHCOCK seems to overcome many of the difficulties in the way of an exchange of prisoners, and the proposition which Gen. HITCHCOCK has made seemed reasonable and fair, if he had interpreted it rightly. I feel greatly encouraged by this suggestion, and earnestly hope an arrangement can be effected. Judge OULD also assured me that all the evidences they had received respecting our treatment of their prisoners was to the effect that they were well treated, excepting at Fort Delaware. I assured him that I had very recently made an official visit to that post to examine into the matter of the treatment of prisoners there, and that I found the complaint groundless. He expressed himself satisfied to be so assured, still he could not altogether give up his preconceived opinion that there is or has been at some time some cause of complaint.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. IRVINE,
Lieutenant-Colonel Tenth New-York Cavalry,
Special Agent Exchange Bureau.

THE STEAMER CHESAPEAKE.

She Left Shelburne, N. S., on Friday Night.

OUR GUNBOATS IN CLOSE PURSUIT.

ATROCITY OF THE PIRATES.

PORTLAND, Me., Saturday, Dec. 12.

The steamer *Chesapeake* left Shelburne at 12 o'clock last night, after shipping some men and coaling.

The *Ella and Anna* arrived at Eastport this morning.

HALIFAX, Saturday, Dec. 12.

There is no doubt but that the steamer *Chesapeake* left Shelburne harbor last night.

The city is thronged with Southern refugees.

BOSTON, Saturday, Dec. 12—P. M.

Capt. WILLETT, late of the steamer *Chesapeake*, with eight of his crew, passed through Boston this afternoon *en route* to New-York.

The pirates forced the Chief Engineer, JOSEPH JOHNSON, who was wounded; AUGUSTUS STARBECK, the Third Engineer, and three firemen to remain with the vessel.

Capt. WILLET reiterates the particulars attending the murder of the second mate, and says that as a deed of unmitigated atrocity it is scarcely possible to find a parallel in the annals of crime.

The dead body of the unfortunate man was allowed to lay for a considerable time on the vessel's deck, until at length the pirates tied iron to it in large quantities, and threw it overboard, the blood leaving a dark and apparently indellible stain on the planks where it had lain.

PHILADELPHIA, Saturday, Dec. 12.

The new gunboat *Kansas* was got ready to-day to sail immediately under sealed orders. It is supposed after the *Chesapeake*.

HISTORY OF THE WAR.

THE CAMPAIGN OF 1863.

GEN. HALLECK'S OFFICIAL REPORT.

OPERATIONS IN THE EAST.

Causes of the Failures in Virginia.

The Brilliant Successes in the South and Southwest.

Gillmore's Operations on the South Carolina Coast.

Interesting Glimpses at the Secret History of the War.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 15, 1863.

SIR: In compliance with your orders, I submit the following summary of military operations since my last annual report:

DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA AND ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

When Gen. BURNSIDE relieved Gen. MCCLELLAN from his command, on the 7th of November, the Army of the Potomac was on the south side of the Potomac, under instructions to pursue Gen. LEE by a flank march on the interior line to Richmond, hugging closely to the Blue Ridge, so as to observe its passes, and to give battle to the enemy whenever an opportunity occurred. On reaching Warrenton, however, Gen. BURNSIDE proposed to give up this pursuit of LEE'S army toward Richmond, and to move down the north side of the Rappahannnock to Falmouth, and to establish a new base of supplies at Aquia Creek or Belle Plain. This proposed change of base was not approved by me, and in a personal interview, at Warrenton, I strongly urged him to retain his present base, and continue his march toward Richmond in the manner pointed out in the President's letter of Oct. 13 to Gen. MCCLELLAN. Gen. BURNSIDE did not fully concur in the President's views, but finally consented to so modify his plan as to cross his army by the fords of the Upper Rappahannock, and then move down and seize the heights south of Fredericksburgh, while a small force was to be sent north of the river to enable Gen. HAUPT to reopen the railroad and to rebuild the bridges, the materials for which were nearly ready in Alexandria. I, however, refused to give any official approval of this deviation from the President's instructions until his assent was obtained.

On my return to Washington, on the 13th, I submitted to him this proposed change in the plan of campaign, and on its receiving his assent, rather than approval, I telegraphed on the 14th authority to Gen. BURNSIDE to adopt it. I here refer not to Gen. BURNSIDE'S written plan to go to Falmouth, but to that of crossing the Rappahannock above its junction with the Rapidan. It has been inferred, from the testimony of Gen. BURNSIDE before the Congressional Committee on the Conduct of the War, that his plan of marching his whole army on the north of the Rappahannock, from Warrenton to Falmouth, had been approved by the authorities in Washington, and that he expected on his arrival there to find supplies and pontoons, with gunboats to cover his crossing. In the first place, that plan was never approved, nor was he ever authorized to adopt it. In the second place, he could not possibly have expected supplies and pontoons to be landed at points then occupied in force by the enemy. Again, he was repeatedly informed that gunboats could not at that time ascend the Rappahannock to Fredericksburgh.

Gen. BURNSIDE did not commence his movement from Warrenton until the 15th, and then instead of crossing the Rappahannock by the fords, as he was expected to do, he marched his whole army down on the north bank of that river, his advance reaching Falmouth on the 20th. LEE'S army in the meantime moved down the south side of the river, but had not occupied Fredericksburgh on the 21st. The river was at this time fordable a few miles above the town, and Gen. SUMNER asked permission to cross and occupy the heights; but it was refused, and no attempt was made to effect the passage until the 11th of December, by which time LEE'S army had been concentrated, and strongly intrenched. This passage, however, was effected without serious opposition by the right wing and centre, under SUMNER and HOOKER, at Fredericksburgh, and the left wing, under FRANKLIN, on bridges established some miles below. It was intended that FRANKLIN'S grand division, consisting of the corps of REYNOLDS and SMITH, should attack the enemy's right and turn his position on the heights in the rear of Fredericksburgh, while SUMNER and HOOKER attacked him in front; but by some alleged misunderstanding of orders, FRANKLIN'S operations were limited to a mere reconnoissance, and the direct attacks of SUMNER and HOOKER were unsupported. The contest on the right wing during the 13th was continued till 5½ o'clock P. M., when our men were forced to fall back, after suffering terrible losses. Both armies remained in position till the night of the 15th, when Gen. BURNSIDE withdrew his forces to the north side of the Rappahannock.

Gen. BURNSIDE has been frequently requested to make an official report of these operations, but has furnished no information beyond that contained in his brief telegrams sent from the field, in one of which he uses the following language: "The fact that I decided to move from Warrenton to this line, rather against the opinion of the President, the Secretary of War, and yourself, and that you have left the whole movement in my hands, without giving me orders, makes me the more responsible."

The loss of the rebels in this battle is not known, as they were sheltered in their fortifications. It was probably less than ours, which, as officially reported, was 1,138 killed, 9,105 wounded, and 2,078 missing. Most of the missing, and many of the slightly wounded, soon rejoined their regiments and reported for duty.

It was alleged at the time that the loss of this battle resulted from the neglect to order forward the pontoon train from Washington. This order was transmitted from Warrenton to Brigadier-Gen. WOODBURY, then in Washington, on the 12th of November, and was promptly acted on by him. Gen. BURNSIDE had supposed that the pontoon train was then in Washington or Alexandria, while it was still on the Potomac, at Berlin and at Harper's Ferry. Gen. BURNSIDE'S order to send it to Washington not having been received by the officials left in charge there. Gen. BURNSIDE had only allowed time for transportation of his pontoons from Alexandria, whereas they had first to be transported to that place from Berl

no official information of his plans, or of their execution.

In the early part of June LEE's army moved to the south bank of the Rappahannock, occupied the gaps of the Blue Ridge, and threatened the Valley of the Shenandoah. Gen. HOOKER followed on an interior line by Warrenton Junction, Thoroughfare Gap and Leesburgh, but the operations of both armies were so masked by the intervening mountains that neither could obtain positive information of the force and movements of the other. Winchester and Martinsburgh were at this time occupied by us simply as outposts. Neither place was susceptible of a good defence. Directions were therefore given on the 11th of June to withdraw those garrisons to Harper's Ferry; but these orders were not obeyed, and on the 13th Winchester was attacked and its armament and a part of the garrison captured.

LEE now crossed the Potomac near Williamsport, and directed his march upon Harrisburgh. Gen. HOOKER followed on his right flank, covering Washington and Baltimore. On reaching Frederick, Md., on the 28th of June, he was, at his own request, relieved from the command, and Maj.-Gen. MEADE appointed in his place.

During these movements cavalry skirmishes took place at Beverly Ford, Brandy Station, Berryville and Aldie, some of which were quite severe; but in the absence of detailed reports I am unable to give the losses on either side. When Gen. MEADE, under the orders of the President, took command of the Army of the Potomac, on the 28th of June, it was mainly concentrated at Frederick, Md. LEE's army was supposed to be advancing against Harrisburgh, which was garrisoned by raw militia, upon which little or no reliance could be placed. EWELL's corps was on the west side of the Susquehanna, between that place and Columbia; LONGSTREET's corps was near Chambersburgh, and HILL's corps between that place and Cashtown. STUART's cavalry was making a raid between Washington and Frederick, cutting MEADE's line of supplies and capturing his trains.

Our force at Harper's Ferry at this time was supposed to be about eleven thousand. It was incorrectly represented to Gen. MEADE to be destitute of provisions, and that he must immediately supply it or order the abandonment of the place. Accordingly, a few hours after he assumed the command, he assented to an order drawn up by an officer of Gen. HALLECK's staff, directing Gen. FRENCH to send seven thousand men of the garrison to Frederick, and with the remainder—estimated at four thousand—to remove and escort the public property to Washington. This order, based on erroneous representations, was not known in Washington till too late to be countermanded. It, however, was not entirely executed when seen. MEADE very judiciously directed the reoccupation of that important point.

On the 29th Gen. MEADE's army was put in motion, and at night was in position, its left at Emmettsburgh and its right at New-Windsor. The advance of Buford's cavalry was at Gettysburgh, and KILPATRICK's division at Hanover, where it encountered STUART's cavalry, which had passed around the rear and right of our army without meeting any serious opposition.

On the 30th, the First, Third and Eleventh corps, were concentrated at Emmettsburgh, under Gen. REYNOLDS, while the right wing moved to Manchester. Gen. BUFORD reported the enemy in force on the Cashtown road, near Gettysburgh, and REYNOLDS moved up to that place on the 1st of July. He found our cavalry warmly engaged with the enemy, and holding him in check on the Cashtown road. REYNOLDS immediately deployed the advanced division of the First corps, and ordered the Eleventh corps to advance promptly to its support. WADSWORTH's division had driven back the enemy some distance, and captured a large number of prisoners, when Gen. REYNOLDS fell mortally wounded. The arrival of EWELL's corps, about this time, by the York and Harrisburgh road, compelled Gen. HOWARD, upon whom the command devolved, to withdraw his force, First and Eleventh corps, to the Cemetery Ridge, on the south side of Gettysburgh. About seven P. M. Gens. SICKLES and SLOCUM arrived on the field with the Third and Twelfth corps, which took position, one on the left and the other on the right of our new line. The battle for the day, however, was over. Gen. MEADE arrived on the field during the night with the reserves, and posted his troops in line of battle—the First corps on the right, the Eleventh corps next, then the Twelfth corps, which crossed the Baltimore pike; the Second and Third corps on the Cemetery Ridge, on the left of the Eleventh corps. The Fifth corps, pending the arrival of the Sixth, formed the reserve. On the arrival of the latter, about two o'clock P. M., it took the place of the Fifth, which was ordered to take position on the extreme left. The enemy massed his troops on an exterior ridge, about a mile and a half in front of that occupied by us. Gen. SICKLES, misinterpreting his orders, instead of placing the Third corps on the prolongation of the Second, had moved it nearly three-fourths of a mile in advance—an error which nearly proved fatal in the battle. The enemy attacked this corps and the Second with great fury, and it was likely to be utterly annihilated, when the ——— corps moved up on the left and enabled it to re-form behind the line it was originally ordered to hold. The Sixth corps and part of the Fifth were also opportunely thrown into this gap, rendering essential aid in checking the enemy's advance. About midnight the troops retired in confusion and disorder. About eight P. M. an assault was made from the left of the town, which was gallantly repulsed by the First, Second and Eleventh corps. On the morning of the 2d we regained, after a spirited contest, a part of our line, the right of which had been yielded, to sustain other points, on the 2d. About 1 P. M. the enemy opened an artillery fire of one hundred and twenty-five guns on our centre and left. This was followed by an assault of heavy infantry columns on our left and left centre. This was successively repulsed with terrible loss to the enemy. This terminated the battle, and the rebels retired, defeated, from the field. The opposing forces in this sanguinary contest were equal in numbers, and both fought with the most desperate courage. The commanders were those best, skilful and experienced, and both handled their troops on the field with distinguished ability; but to Gen. MEADE belongs the honor of a well-earned victory in one of the greatest and best-fought battles of the war.

On the morning of the 4th, the enemy apparently occupied a new line in front of our left, but in reality his army had commenced its retreat, carrying off a part of his wounded. His lines, however, were not entirely evacuated till the morning of the 4th, when the cavalry and the Sixth corps were sent in pursuit. The days of the 5th and 6th were employed by Gen. MEADE in succoring the wounded and burying the dead left on the battle-field. He then started in pursuit of LEE by a flank movement upon Middletown. In the meantime, Gen. FRENCH had reoccupied Harper's Ferry, destroyed the enemy's pontoon train at Williamsport and Falling Waters, and captured its guards. Halting a day at Middletown, Gen. MEADE crossed the South Mountain, and on the 12th found the enemy occupying a strong position on the Heights of Marsh Run, in front of Williamsport. Instead of attacking LEE in this position, with the swollen waters of the Potomac in his rear, without any means of crossing his artillery, and when a defeat must have caused the surrender of his entire army, he was allowed time to construct a pontoon bridge with lumber collected from canal-boats and the ruins of wooden houses, and on the morning of the 14th his army had crossed to the south side of the river. His rear guard, however, was attacked by our cavalry, and suffered considerable loss.

Thus ended the rebel campaign north of the Potomac, from which important political and military results had been expected. Our own loss in this short campaign had been very severe, viz.: 2,834 killed, 13,700 wounded, and 6,643 missing, in all 23,182. We captured three guns, forty-one standards, 13,621 prisoners, 24,178 small arms. The whole loss of the enemy is not known; but judging from the numbers of his dead and wounded left on the field, it must have been much greater than ours. After crossing the Potomac LEE continued his retreat up the valley of the Shenandoah and through the gaps of the Blue Ridge, till he reached the south bank of the Rapidan, near Orange Court-house, when he took a defensive position to dispute the crossing of the river. Gen. MEADE continued his flank pursuit by Harper's Ferry, Berlin and Warrenton, till he reached Culpepper Court-house, when he halted his army, not deeming it prudent to cross the river and attack the enemy, who was now intrenched on the south bank, which completely commanded the approaches on the north side. During this advance several cavalry skirmishes took place, but without serious loss on either side.

A considerable part of LEE's army was now withdrawn to reinforce BRAGG in the West; but with his diminished numbers he assumed a threatening attitude against MEADE, manœuvred to turn his flank, and forced him to fall back to the line of Bull Run. Having destroyed the Orange and Alexandria Railroad from the Rapidan to Manassas, the rebels again fell back to their former position near Orange Court-house. During these operations there were several severe engagements between detached forces, but no general battle—Oct. 10 and 11, at Robertson River; Oct. 12, at Brandy Station; Oct. 14, at Bristoe Station; Oct. 19, at Buckland Mills; Oct. 24, at Bealton and the Rappahannock Bridge, and on the 7th of November on the south bank of that river. Our loss at Bristoe Station was 51 killed and 329 wounded. We captured five cannon, two colors, and 450 prisoners. In the several skirmishes between the 9th and 23d of October, the casualties in our cavalry corps were 74, and 485 missing. The enemy's loss is not known, but must have been heavy, as we captured many prisoners. Troops sent out from Harper's Ferry forced him to immediately retreat. On the 7th of November Gens. SEDGWICK and FRENCH attacked the enemy at Rappahannock Station and Kelly's ford, capturing several redoubts, four guns, eight battle flags, and about 2,000 prisoners. Our loss in killed and wounded was 370. The enemy now retreated to his old position on the Rapidan. The operations of our troops in West Virginia are referred to here as being intimately connected with those of the Army of the Potomac. The force being too small to attempt any important campaign by itself, has acted masterly upon the defensive in repelling raids and breaking up guerrilla bands.

When LEE's army retreated across the Potomac in July last, Brig.-Gen. KELLY concentrated all his available force on the enemy's flank, near Clear Springs, ready to cooperate in the proposed attack by Gen. MEADE. They also rendered valuable services in the pursuit after LEE had effected his passage of the river.

On the 24th of July Col. TOLAND attacked the enemy at Wytheville, on the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad, capturing two pieces of artillery, 700 muskets and 125 prisoners. Our loss was 17 killed and 64 wounded. The enemy's killed and wounded were reported to be 75.

In August Gen. AVERILL attacked a rebel force under Gen. SAM JONES, at Rocky Gap, in Greenbrier County, capturing one gun, 150 prisoners, and killing and wounding some 900. Our loss in killed, wounded and missing was 130.

On the 11th of September IMBODEN attacked a small force of our troops at Moorefield, wounding 15 and capturing 150. On the 5th of November Gen. AVERILL attacked and defeated the enemy near Lewisburgh, capturing three pieces of artillery, 160 prisoners and a large number of small arms, wagons and camp equipage. The enemy's loss in killed and wounded is estimated at 300.

DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA.

Our force in North Carolina during the past year has been too small for any important operations against the enemy, and consequently has acted mostly on the defensive, holding the important positions previously captured from the rebels. Nevertheless, Gen. FOSTER has given much annoyance to the enemy and taken every favorable opportunity to threaten and cut his lines.

In December last he marched against Kinston, and on the 14th defeated the enemy and captured the place. He then moved up the south side of the river Neuse to Goldsboro, burned the railroad bridge at that place and tore up much of the railroad between the river and Mount Olive. He captured four hundred and ninety-six prisoners and nine pieces of artillery. His loss was ninety killed, four hundred and seventy-eight wounded and nine missing.

In March, the rebel Gen. PETTIGREW with a large force of infantry and artillery, made a demonstration on Newbern, but was forced to abandon his attempt upon that place. Gen. FOSTER's loss only two killed and four wounded. In April, Gen. HILL laid siege to Washington on the Tar River. The place had only a small garrison, and was but slightly fortified. Gen. FOSTER, however, immediately exerted all his energies to strengthen the works as to repel any assault until reinforcements arrived from Newbern to raise the siege. There is no report of the losses on either side. An expedition sent against a rebel camp at Gum Swamp, in May, which captured one hundred and sixty-five prisoners and military stores, and another in July against Rocky Mount, on Tar River, which destroyed the bridge at that place and a large amount of rebel property, terminate the military operations in that State to the present time.

On being compelled to abandon his attempt upon Washington, the rebel Gen. HILL marched toward Nansemond, to reinforce LONGSTREET, who was investing Suffolk. Failing in his direct assaults upon this place, the enemy proceeded to establish batteries for its reduction. Gen. PECK made every preparation for defence of which the place was capable, and retarded the construction of his works, till finally the attempt was abandoned. Our loss in these operations was 41 killed, 201 wounded and 14 missing. We captured 400 prisoners and five guns during the seige. As Suffolk possessed no advantage as a military post, and was not susceptible of a good defence, the garrison was afterward withdrawn within the new lines constructed around Norfolk. When the rebel army was moving North upon Maryland and Pennsylvania, Gen. DIX sent all of his available force from Norfolk and Fortress Monroe up the York River, for the purpose of cutting off LEE's communications with Richmond, and of attacking that place which was then defended by only a handful of militia. The expedition, however, failed to accomplish a single object for which it had been fitted out. The failure resulting, it was alleged, from the inefficiency of one of the Generals Commanding. Gen. DIX therefore ordered its return, and sent the troops of which it was composed to reinforce the army of Gen. MEADE, north of the Potomac. On the 5th of October Brig.-Gen. WISTAR was sent with a small force, aided by gunboats, to Mathew County, Va., to break up a rebel party, known as the Confederate Volunteer Coast Guard, which was engaged smuggling goods across the Chesapeake from Maryland and the Eastern shore. Most of these Coast guards were absent at the time, but the expedition resulted in capturing 150 boats and schooners and 80 head of beef cattle. The navy has given efficient aid in all the operations in this Department of the South.

The withdrawal last year of most of our troops in South Carolina to reinforce Gen. MCCLELLAN on the Peninsula compelled the Commanding-General of that department to confine himself mainly to the defence of the point which he then occupied. An attack upon Fort Sumter and Charleston had long been in contemplation by the Navy Department, and in March last it was represented that the operations of the iron-clads and monitors would be greatly facilitated by a land force prepared to assist the attack, and to occupy any work reduced by the navy.

Accordingly, Gen. FOSTER, with a considerable force, and a large siege equipage which had been prepared for another purpose, was sent to assist in the naval attack. It was thought that his talents and experience as an engineer officer, and his personal knowledge of the localities and defensive works of Charleston Harbor, rendered him peculiarly suited for this duty; but not proving acceptable to the Commanding-General of the Department, he was permitted to return to his command in North Carolina, leaving his troops and siege preparations in the Department of the South. The naval attack on Fort Sumter took place on the 7th of April, but being unsuccessful nothing apparently remained to be done by the land forces. A siege of Charleston and its defences by land had never been contemplated, and, therefore, was no part of the plan. It was now represented by the Navy Department that a second attack upon Fort Sumter and Charleston was preparing, and that its success required the military occupation of Morris Island and the establishment of land batteries on that island to assist in the reduction of Fort Sumter. The establishment of these batteries and the reduction of the enemy's works—Fort Wagner and Battery Gregg—being a matter of engineering skill, Brigadier-General, now Major-Gen. Q. A. GILLMORE, was selected to command the land forces engaged in these operations. In addition to being an educated and skillful military engineer, he had considerable experience in the special duties required in these operations. Gen. GILLMORE, despite the enemy's defensive works, landed his force on Morris Island on the 10th of July, and immediately commenced the slow and difficult operations of conducting the siege of Fort Wagner and establishing batteries against Fort Sumter. Without, however, waiting for the reduction of the former he opened on the 17th of August, his fire on the latter, and on the 23d, after seven days' bombardment, Fort Sumter was reported a shapeless and harmless mass of ruins.

Being under the fire of other forts of the enemy, inaccessible by land, our troops could not occupy it, and a few guns have since been temporarily remounted, but they have been as often silenced. Gen. GILLMORE now vigorously pushed forward his saps against Fort Wagner, and on the morning of Sept. 7 took possession of that place, and also of Battery Gregg, most of the garrison having made their escape in boats during the night. He captured in all 36 pieces of artillery and a large amount of ammunition.

Gen. GILLMORE's operations have been characterized by great professional skill and boldness. He has overcome difficulties almost unknown in modern sieges. Indeed, his operations on Morris Island constitute almost a new era in the science of engineering and gunnery. Since the capture of Forts Wagner and Gregg he has enlarged these works, and established powerful batteries which effectually command Fort Sumter, and can render efficient aid to any naval attack upon Charleston. They also control the entrance to the harbor.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

Maj.-Gen. BANKS took command of the Department of the Gulf on the 17th of December. Almost immediately on assuming command he ordered a detachment of troops to Galveston, Texas, to occupy that place, under the protection of our gunboats. Col. BURRILL, with three companies of the Forty-second Massachusetts Volunteers, the advance of the expedition, arrived at that place on the evening of the 24th of December. On consultation with the commander of the blockading force he landed his men upon the wharf and took possession of the city. On the 1st January, before the arrival of the remainder of our forces, the rebels made an attack by land with artillery and infantry, and by water with three powerful rams. Col. BURRILL's command of 260 men were nearly all killed and taken prisoners. The *Harriet Lane* was captured, and the flagship *Westfield* was blown up by her commander to prevent her falling into the hands of the enemy.

The rebels also captured the coal transports and a schooner. The commanders of the *Harriet Lane* and the *Westfield*, and a number of other naval officers and men were killed. The remainder of the expedition did not leave New-Orleans till Dec. 31, and arrived off Galveston on the 2d of January, the day after our forces there had been captured and destroyed by the enemy. Fortunately, they did not attempt to land, and returned to New-Orleans in safety. It is proper to remark that this expedition was not contemplated or provided for in Gen. BANKS' instructions. On the 11th of January, Gen. WEITZEL, with a force of infantry and artillery, aided by the gunboats under Lieut.-Commanding BUCHANAN, crossed Berwick Bay and attacked the rebel gunboat *Cotton* in the bayou Teche. This gunboat being disabled by the fire of our naval and land forces, was burned by the rebels.

The loss of Gen. WEITZEL's command in this expedition was 6 killed and 27 wounded. A number were killed and wounded on our gunboats, and among the former Lieut.-Commanding BUCHANAN. On learning the capture of the *Queen of the West* by the rebels above Port Hudson, and their movements on the Red River and the Teche, Admiral FARRAGUT determined to run past the enemy's batteries while the forces at Baton Rouge made a demonstration on the land side of Port Hudson. The demonstration was made on March 14. Admiral FARRAGUT succeeded in passing the batteries with the *Hartford* and *Albatross*. The *Monongahela* and *Richmond* fell back, and the *Mississippi* grounded and was blown up by her commander. Had our land forces invested Port Hudson at this time it could have been easily reduced, as its garrison was weak. This would have opened communication by the Mississippi River with Gen. GRANT, at Vicksburgh. But the strength of the place was not then known, and Gen. BANKS resumed his operations by the Teche and Atchafalaya. In the latter part of March Col. CLARKE was sent with a small force up the Pontchatoula and destroyed the railroad bridge at that place. He captured a rebel officer and four privates, and three schooners loaded with cotton. His loss was six wounded. At the same time Gen. NICKERSON was sent to the Amite River, to destroy the Jackson Railroad. He proceeded as far as Camp Moore, and captured forty-three prisoners, a considerable amount of cotton, and destroyed valuable rebel manufactories. In his operations up the Teche and Atchafalaya, Gen. BANKS encountered the enemy under SIBLEY, TAYLOR, and MONTON, at several points, and defeated them in every engagement. Butte a la Rose was captured with a garrison and two heavy guns, by the gunboats under Lieut.-Commanding COOKE, of he navy. Gen. BANKS reached Alexandria on the 8th of May, the enemy retreating toward Shreveport and into Texas. In this expedition Gen. BANKS reports the capture of 2,000 prisoners, 22 pieces of artillery, 2 transports, and a large amount of public property. We destroyed three gunboats and eight transports. Our own loss in the different engagements with the enemy was very slight, numbers not given. Gen. BANKS now returned to the Mississippi River, crossed his army to Bavou Sara, where he formed a junction, May 23, with Gen. AUGUR's forces, from Baton Rouge. The latter had an engagement with the enemy on Port Hudson Plains on the 22d, in which he lost 19 killed and 80 wounded. Port Hudson was immediately invested. While awaiting the slow operations of a siege Gen. BANKS made two unsuccessful assaults upon the place. Finally, on the 8th of July, the place unconditionally surrendered. We captured six thousand two hundred and thirty-three prisoners, fifty-one pieces of artillery, two steamers, four thousand four hundred pounds of cannon powder, five thousand small arms, one hundred and fifty thousand rounds of ammunition, &c. Our loss, from the 23d to the 30th of March, including the assault of the 27th, as reported, was about one thousand.

Being reinforced from Gen. GRANT's army on the termination of the Mississippi campaign, Gen. BANKS sent an expedition, under Gen. FRANKLIN, to occupy the mouth of the Sabine River in Texas. It reached the entrance to the harbor on the 8th of September, and the gunboats engaged the enemy's batteries. But two of them—the *Clinton* and *Sachem*—being disabled and forced to surrender, the others retreated, and the whole expedition returned to Brashear City. The officers and crews of the gunboats, and about ninety sharpshooters who were on board, were captured, and our loss in killed and wounded was about thirty. After a long delay at Brashear City, the army moved forward by Franklin and Vermillionville, and at last accounts occupied Opelousas.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TENNESSEE.

At the date of my last annual report Major-Gen. GRANT occupied West Tennessee and the northern boundary of Mississippi. The object of the campaign of the army was the opening of the Mississippi River, in conjunction with the army of Gen. BANKS.

Gen. GRANT was instructed to drive the enemy in the interior as far south as possible, and destroy their railroad communications; then to fall back to Memphis and embark his available forces on transports, and with the assistance of the fleet of Admiral PORTER reduce Vicksburgh. The first part of this plan was most successfully executed, but the right wing of the army sent against Vicksburgh under Major-Gen. SHERMAN found that place much stronger than was expected.

Two attacks were made, on the 28th and 29th of December, but, failing in their object, our troops were withdrawn, and while waiting for reinforcements from Gen. GRANT moved up the Arkansas River to Arkansas Post, which place was, with the assistance of the gunboats, captured on the 11th of January. Our loss at Vicksburgh was 191 killed, 982 wounded and 756 missing; at Arkansas Post, 129 killed, 831 wounded and 17 missing. We captured at the latter place 5,000 prisoners, 17 pieces of cannon, 3,000 small arms, 46,000 rounds of ammunition and 563 animals.

Gen. GRANT has assumed the immediate command of the army on the Mississippi, which was largely reinforced. Being satisfied by the result of Gen. SHERMAN's operations that the north line of the enemy's works was too strong to be carried without a very heavy loss, he directed his attention to opening the canal which had been commenced the year before by Gen. WILLIAMS across the peninsula on the west bank of the river.

The canal had been improperly located—its upper terminus being in an eddy and the lower terminus being exposed to the enemy's guns; nevertheless it was thought that it could be completed sooner than a new one could be constructed. While working parties under Capt. PRINCE, Chief Engineer of that army, were diligently employed upon this canal, Gen. GRANT directed his attention to several other projects for turning the enemy's position. These are fully described in his official report. The canal proving impracticable and his other plans being unsuccessful, he determined to move his army by land down the west bank of the river, some seventy miles, while transports for crossing should run past the enemy's batteries at Vicksburgh.

The dangers of running the batteries being very great, and the roads of the west side in horrible condition, this was a difficult and hazardous expedient; but it seemed to be the only possible solution of the problem. The execution of the plan, however, was greatly facilitated by Admiral FARRAGUT, who had run two of his vessels past the enemy's batteries at Port Hudson and Grand Gulf, and cleared the river of the enemy's boats below Vicksburgh, and finally, through the indomitable energy of the Commanding General and admirable dispositions of Admiral PORTER for running the enemy's batteries, the operation was completely successful.

The army crossed the river at Bruinsburgh, April 30, turned Grand Gulf, and engaged the enemy near Port Gibson on the 1st, and at Fourteen-mile Creek on the 3d of May. The enemy was defeated in both engagements with heavy loss. Gen. GRANT now moved his forces by rapid marches to the north, in order to separate the garrison of Vicksburgh from the covering army of JOHNSTON. The movement was followed by the battle of Raymond, May 12; of Jackson, May 14; of Champion's Hill, May 16; and of Big Black River Bridge, May 17—in all of which our troops were victorious. Gen. GRANT now proceeded to invest Vicksburgh.

In order to facilitate Gen. GRANT's operations by destroying the enemy's lines of communication and prevent the early concentration of any reinforcements, Col. (now Brig.-Gen.) GRIERSON was sent with a cavalry force from La Grange, on the 17th of April, to traverse the interior of the State of Mississippi. This expedition was most successfully conducted. It destroyed many of the enemy's railroad bridges, depots and much rolling stock, and reached Baton Rouge, La., in safety, on the 2d of May. On returning to Vicksburgh, Gen. GRANT found his forces insufficient to entirely invest the enemy's works. There was, therefore, danger that the two bodies of the enemy, under PEMBERTON and JOHNSTON, might yet effect a junction, as it was known that the latter was being largely reinforced from BRAGG's army in Middle and East Tennessee. Under these circumstances, Gen. GRANT determined to attempt to carry the place by assault.

Two unsuccessful attacks were made May 19 and 22; but as reinforcements reached him a few days after sufficiently large to enable him to completely invest the rebel defences, he resorted to the slower but more certain operation of a regular siege. By the 3d of July his saps were so far advanced as to render his success certain, and on that day Gen. PEMBERTON proposed an armistice and capitulation, which were finally accepted, and Vicksburgh surrendered on the 4th of July. In the language of Gen. GRANT's official report, the results of this short campaign were:

"The defeat of the enemy in five battles outside of Vicksburgh, the occupation of Jackson, the capital of the State of Mississippi, and the capture of Vicksburgh and its garrison and munitions of war; a loss to the enemy of 37,000 prisoners, among whom were fifteen general officers; at least 10,000 killed and wounded; and among the killed Gens. TRACY, TILGHMAN and GREEN, and hundreds, and perhaps thousands of stragglers, who can never be collected and organized. Arms and munitions of war for an army of sixty thousand have fallen into our hands, besides a large amount of other public property, consisting of railroads, locomotives, cars, steamboats, cotton, &c.; and much was destroyed to prevent our capturing it.

Our losses in these series of battles may be summed up as follows:

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
Port Gibson	130	718	5
Fourteen Mile Creek (skirmish).	4	24	—
Raymond	69	341	32
Jackson	40	240	6
Champion's Hill	426	1,842	189
Big Black Railroad Bridge	29	212	2
Vicksburgh	545	3,688	303

Of the wounded many were but slightly wounded and continued on duty; many more required but a few days or weeks for their recovery. Not more than one half of the wounded were permanently disabled."

When we consider the character of the country in which this army operated, the formidable obstacles to be overcome, the number of forces and the strength of the enemy's works, we cannot fail to admire the courage and endurance of the troops, and the skill and daring of their commander. No more brilliant exploit can be found in military history. It has been alleged, and the allegation has been widely circulated by the Press, that Gen. GRANT, in the conduct of his campaign, positively disobeyed the instructions of his superiors. It is hardly necessary to remark that Gen. GRANT never disobeyed an order or instruction, but always carried out to the best of his ability every wish or suggestion made to him by the Government. Moreover, he has never complained that the Government did not furnish him all the means and assistance in its power, to facilitate the execution of any plan he saw fit to adopt.

While the main army of Tennessee was operating against Vicksburgh, the enemy's force on the west side of the river made unsuccessful attacks on Milliken's Bend and Lake Providence on the 6th and 10th of June. Our loss in the former was 101 killed, 285 wounded, and 266 missing. The loss in the latter was not reported. It is represented that the colored troops in these desperate engagements fought with great bravery, and that the rebels treated this class of prisoners of war, as well as their officers, with great barbarity. It has not been possible, however, to ascertain the correctness of these representations in regard to the treatment of these prisoners.

After the capture of Vicksburgh, Gen. GRANT reported that his troops were so much fatigued and worn out with forced marches and the labors of the siege as to absolutely require several weeks of repose before undertaking another campaign. Nevertheless, as the exigencies of the service seemed to require it, he sent out those who were least fatigued on several important expeditions, while the others remained in Vicksburgh to put that place in a better defensive condition for a small garrison.

As soon as Vicksburgh capitulated, Gen. SHERMAN was sent in pursuit of JOHNSTON's forces. The latter retreated to Jackson, Miss., which place was taken by us on the 16th of July. Our loss was about 1,000 killed, wounded and missing. Gen. SHERMAN captured 764 prisoners, two rifled guns, a large amount of ammunition and destroyed the railroads, rolling stock, &c. The enemy retreated toward the Alabama line, and Gen. SHERMAN returned to Vicksburgh to recuperate his forces.

A military and naval force was sent to Yazoo City on the 13th. It took three hundred prisoners, captured one steamer and burned five, took six cannon, two hundred and fifty small arms and eight hundred horses and mules. No loss on our side was reported. Small expeditions were also sent against Canton, Pontotoc, Grenada and Natchez, Mississippi. At Grenada a large amount of rolling stock was destroyed, and near Natchez, Gen. RANSOM captured five thousand head of Texas cattle, a number of prisoners and teams, and a large amount of ammunition. The other expeditions were also successful, meeting with very little opposition. As soon as his army was supplied and rested, Gen. GRANT sent a force under Gen. Steele to Helena, to cooperate with Gen. Schofield's troops against Little Rock, and another, under Gens. Ord and Herron, to New Orleans, to reinforce Gen. Banks for such ulterior operations as he might deem proper to undertake. These expeditions were also sent to the Red River, and to Harrisonburgh and Monroe, on the Washita, to break up and destroy guerrilla bands.

After Gen. GRANT left Vicksburgh to assume the general command east of the Mississippi, Gen. MCPHERSON moved with a part of his force to Canton, Miss., scattering the enemy's cavalry, and destroying his materials and roads in the centre of that State.

DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

The withdrawal to Missouri of a large part of our forces in Arkansas was stated in my last annual report. It left the frontier of the former exposed to raids, of which the rebels were prompt to take advantage. MARMADUKE, with the advance of HINDMAN's rebel army, moved forward with the purpose of entering Southwest Missouri. Before the enemy could concentrate his forces for battle, Brig.-Gen. BLUNT, by forced marches, encountered him at Cave Hill, in the Boston Mountain. A running fight took place on the 18th of November, 1862, in which the enemy was defeated with a heavy loss. Our loss was four killed and thirty-six wounded. Four days after the combat at Cave Hill, from reliable information, it was ascertained that HINDMAN's army had crossed the Arkansas River and formed a junction with MARMADUKE at Lee's creek, fifteen miles north of Van Buren, to which point the latter had retreated after the action of the 28th of November.

The united rebel force was believed to be very much greater than our own, two divisions of which were more than one hundred miles in the rear. Immediately upon learning Gen. BLUNT's danger from an overwhelming attack of the enemy, Gen. HERRON, by forced marches of one hundred and ten miles in three days, arrived at Fayetteville, Ark., early on the morning of the 7th of December, and soon after encountered the enemy in force at Prairie Grove, while attempting a flank movement to get between BLUNT and the approaching succor, to crush them both in succession. This skilfully-devised project was fortunately frustrated by the valor and endurance of HERRON's division, which stoutly held their ground till about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, when BLUNT's forces arrived upon the field, when the engagement became general along the entire line, and continued to be fiercely contested until dark. During the night the enemy retreated across the Boston Mountains. Although the enemy suffered much more severely than ourselves, we purchased the victory with the loss of 167 killed, 798 wounded and 183 missing, making a total loss of 1,148, of which 953 were of HERRON's division.

Early in January, 1863, a rebel force, estimated at from four thousand to six thousand, under MARMADUKE, moved from Lawrence Mills, and proceeded by way of Ozark to the attack of Springfield, Missouri, to which place our small force, consisting chiefly of militia, convalescents and citizens, was compelled to fall back. This miscellaneous garrison, a motley misss of only about one thousand men, obstinately defended the place most of the day, the 8th of January, with the loss of fourteen killed, one hundred and forty-five wounded and five missing—in all, one hundred and sixty-four. Under cover of the night the enemy withdrew and our force was too feeble to make a vigorous pursuit. Another skirmish took place at Hartsville on the 11th, in which our loss was seven killed and sixty-four wounded. We captured twenty-seven prisoners. The season was now so far advanced and the roads so impassable that further operations could not be carried on by either party. On the 15th of July Maj.-Gen. BLUNT crossed the Arkansas River near Henry Springs, Indian Territory, and on the 16th attacked a superior force of rebels under Gen. COOPER which he completely routed, the enemy leaving the field and wounded on the field. Our loss was seventeen killed and sixty wounded, while that of the enemy was one hundred and fifty killed (buried by our men), four hundred wounded, and seventy-seven prisoners taken, besides one piece of artillery, one hundred stand of arms and fifteen guns. After several skirmishes with the enemy, Gen. BLUNT descended the Arkansas River, and on the 1st of September occupied Fort Smith, Arkansas. The main body of our troops in the Department of the Missouri had in the early part of the season been sent to reinforce Gen. GRANT before Vicksburgh. Taking advantage of this reduction of force, the enemy moved against Helena, and attacked that place on the 4th of July. After a severe engagement he was defeated by Maj.-Gen. PRENTISS, with a heavy loss in killed and wounded and one thousand one hundred prisoners. Our loss in killed, wounded and missing was only about two hundred and fifty. As soon as Vicksburgh had capitulated, Maj.-Gen. STEELE was sent with a force to Helena, with instructions to form a junction with Brig.-Gen. DAVIDSON, who was moving south from Missouri by Crowley's Ridge, and drive the enemy south of the Arkansas River. This junction being effected, Gen. STEELE established his depot and hospitals at Duvall's Bluff, and on the 1st of August advanced against the enemy, who fell back toward Little Rock. After several successful skirmishes he reached the Arkansas River, and threw part of his force upon the south side to threaten the enemy's communications with Arkadelphia, and take his defences in reverse. The rebels, on seeing this movement, destroyed what property they could, and after a slight resistance fled in disorder, pursued by our cavalry, and on the 10th of September our troops took possession of the capital of Arkansas. Our loss in killed, wounded and missing did not exceed one hundred. We captured one thousand prisoners and such public property as the rebels had not time to destroy. After the capture of Little Rock, and while our cavalry were watching the main force of the rebels south, the enemy attempted the recapture of Fire Bluff, but was repulsed with heavy loss. On the 28th of October, our troops occupied Arkadelphia, the enemy retreating to Red River.

A large part of the military force in the Department of the Missouri had been employed during the past year in repelling raids and in repressing the guerrilla bands of robbers and murderers who came within our lines or been organized in the country. Most of these bands are not authorized belligerents under the laws of war, but simply outlaws from civilized society. It is exceedingly difficult to eradicate these bands, inasmuch as the inhabitants of the country, sometimes from disloyalty and sometimes from fear, afford them subsistence and concealment. They usually hide themselves in the woods, and, being well mounted, move rapidly from one point to another, supplying themselves with provisions and fresh horses. They rob and murder wherever they go. In a recent raid of one of these bands into Kansas they burned the City of Lawrence, and murdered every one they could, without regard to age or sex, committing atrocities more inhuman than those of Indian savages. These are the terrible results of a border contest, incited at first for political purposes, and since increasing in animosity by the civil war in which we are engaged, till all sense of humanity seems to have been lost in the desire to avenge with blood real or fancied grievances. This extraordinary condition of affairs on that frontier seems to call for the application of a prompt and severe remedy. It has been proposed to depopulate the frontier counties of Missouri and to lay waste the country on the border, so as to prevent its furnishing any shelter or subsistence to these bands of murderers.

Such measures are within the recognized laws of war. They were adopted by WELLINGTON in Portugal, and by the Russian armies in the campaign of 1812; but they should be adopted only in case of overruling necessity. The execution of Gen. SCHOFIELD's order on this subject has been suspended, and it is hoped that it will not be necessary hereafter to renew it.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NORTHWEST.

As soon as the season was sufficiently advanced for a campaign against the Indians Gen. POPE sent a column, under Brig.-Gen. SIBLEY, up the Mississippi River to near our northern boundary, and thence across the country to the Missouri; and another of cavalry, under Brig.-Gen. SULLY, from Sioux City up the latter river, to cut off the retreat of the hostile Indians whom Gen. SIBLEY might drive before him from Minnesota and Eastern Dakota. Unfortunately these movements were not well timed, and no junction was effected. A portion of the savages driven north took refuge within British territory, where our troops were not permitted to follow them. Some fled westward, and were overtaken by Gen. SIBLEY near Missouri Coteau, where he encountered a force of Minnesota and Dakota warriors, estimated at from two thousand two hundred to two thousand five hundred.

In the engagement which followed at Big Mound and Dead Buffalo Lake the Indians were completely routed, with a heavy loss in killed and wounded, and in the destruction of their provisions and means of transportation. Our loss was five killed and four wounded. The savages who escaped crossed to the east side of the Mississippi, and Gen. SIBLEY reached that river about forty miles below Fort Clarke, on the 29th of July, having marched the distance, some 600 miles from St. Paul. On the 3d of September, Gen. SULLY encountered and defeated at Whitestone Hall, about 130 miles above the Little Cheyenne, a body of Indians, a part of whom had previously been engaged against SIBLEY's columns. The savages were defeated with a heavy loss in killed and wounded, and 156 prisoners.

Our loss was 20 killed and 38 wounded. With these operations the present Indian campaign was terminated. Recent hostilities in Idaho may render it necessary to send a military expedition into that Territory early in the Spring.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PACIFIC.

This department has been most signally exempt from the evils of civil war, and consequently has enjoyed unexampled prosperity. Some thefts and robberies having been committed by roving bands of Indians on the overland stage route in January last, Gen. CONNOR marched, with a small force, to Bear River, Idaho Territory, where, on the 20th, he overtook and complely defeated them in a severe battle, in which he took two hundred and twenty-four of the three hundred and captured one hundred and seventy-five of their horses. His own loss, in killed and wounded, was sixty-three, out of two hundred. Many of his men were severely injured by the frost. Since this severe punishment the Indians in that quarter have ceased to commit depredations on the whites.

DEPARTMENT OF NEW-MEXICO.

The troops in this Department have been principally employed during the past year on the Indian frontier, and in opening and guarding roads to the newly discovered gold mines in Arizona. The fabulous richness of these mines has attracted large numbers of miners and travelers from California and Mexico, and the hitherto barren territory will soon become a wealthy and populous State.

DEPARTMENT OF THE OHIO.

In December last Brig.-Gen. S. P. CARTER made a cavalry raid into Eastern Tennessee, and destroyed the Union and Watauga Railroad bridges, a considerable amount of arms, rolling stock, &c. He retur

nooga, and hearing that LEE was being rapidly reinforced on the Rapidan, it seemed probable that the enemy had determined to concentrate his forces for the defence of Richmond, or a new invasion of the North. The slight resistance made by him in East Tennessee, and his abandonment without defence of so important a position as Chattanooga, gave plausibility to the reports of spies and deserters from LEE's army of reinforcements arriving there from BRAGG.

Fearing that Gen. ROSECRANS' army might be drawn too far into the mountains of Georgia, where it could not be supplied, and might be attacked before reinforcements could reach it from BURNSIDE, I sent him on the 11th the following telegram:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 11, 1863.

Gen. BURNSIDE telegraphs from Cumberland Gap that he holds all East Tennessee above Loudon, and also the gaps of the North Carolina Mountains. A cavalry force is moving toward Athens to connect with you. After holding the mountain passes on the west of Dalton or some other point on the railroad to prevent the return of BRAGG's army, it will be decided whether your army shall move further south into Georgia and Alabama.

It is reported here by deserters that a part of of BRAGG's army is reinforcing LEE. It is important that the truth of this should be ascertained as early as possible.

H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

Major-Gen. ROSECRANS, Chattanooga.

On the same day the following telegram was sent to Gen. BURNSIDE:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 11, 1863.

I congratulate you on your success. Hold the gap of the North Carolina mountains, the line of the Holston River, or some point, if there be one, to prevent access from Virginia, and connect with Gen. ROSECRANS, at least with your cavalry. Gen. ROSECRANS will occupy Dalton or some point on the railroad to close all access from Atlanta, and also the mountain passes in the west. This being done, it will be determined whether the movable force shall advance into Georgia and Alabama or into the Valley of Virginia and North Carolina.

H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

Major-Gen. BURNSIDE, Cumberland Gap.

On the 12th Gen. ROSECRANS telegraphed that although he was sufficiently strong for the enemy then on his front, there were indications that the rebels intended to turn his flanks and cut off his communications; he therefore decided that BURNSIDE should move down his infantry toward Chattanooga, on his left, and that GRANT should cover the Tennessee River toward Whitesburgh, to prevent any raid on Nashville. He was of opinion that no troops had been sent from BRAGG's army, but that BRAGG was being reinforced by LORING, from Mississippi. On the night of the 13th Gen. ROSECRANS telegraphed from Ringgold that trains of cars had been heard running all the time, day and night, for the last thirty-six hours, on the Petersburgh and Richmond road, evidently indicating a movement of troops in some direction, and on the morning of the 14th, that LONGSTREET's corps was reported to be going South through North Carolina. Gen. MEADE had been directed to ascertain—by giving battle if necessary—whether any of LEE's troops had left. It was not till the 14th he could give me any information on this point, and then he telegraphed: "My judgment, formed of a variety of meagre and conflicting testimony, is, that LEE's army has been reduced by LONGSTREET's corps, and perhaps by some regiments from EWELL's and HILL's."

As soon as I received Gen. ROSECRANS' and Gen. FOSTER's telegrams, of the 12th and 13th, I sent the following telegrams to Gens. BURNSIDE, ROSECRANS, HURLBUT, GRANT and SHERMAN:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 3, 1863.

It is important that all the available forces of your command be pushed forward into East Tennessee. All your scattered forces should be concentrated there. So long as we hold Tennessee, Kentucky is perfectly safe. Move down your infantry as rapidly as possible toward Chattanooga, to connect with ROSECRANS. BRAGG may merely hold the passes of the mountains to cover Atlanta and move his main army through Northern Alabama, to reach the Tennessee River, and turn ROSECRANS' right and cut off his supplies, in which case he will turn Chattanooga over to you and move to interrupt BRAGG.

H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

Major-Gen. BURNSIDE, Knoxville.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 13, 1863.

There is no intention of sending Gen. BURNSIDE into North Carolina. He is ordered to move down and connect with you. Should the enemy attempt to turn your right flank through Alabama, Chattanooga should be turned over to BURNSIDE, and your army, or such part of it as may not be required there, should move to prevent BRAGG from reentering Middle Tennessee. HURLBUT will aid you all he can, but most of GRANT's available force is west of the Mississippi.

H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

Maj.-Gen. ROSECRANS, Chattanooga.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, Sept. 13, 1863.

I think from all accounts, that STEELE is sufficiently strong. All your available force should be sent to Corinth and Tuscumbia to operate again t BRAGG. Should he attempt to turn ROSECRANS' right and recross the river into Tennessee, send to Gen. SHERMAN, at Vicksburgh, for reinforcements for this purpose. Gen. GRANT, it is understood, is sick in New-Orleans.

H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

Maj.-Gen HURLBUT, Memphis.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 13, 1863.

It is quite possible that BRAGG and JOHNSTON will move through Northern Alabama to Tennessee River to turn Gen. ROSECRANS' right and cut off his communications. All of Gen. GRANT's available forces should be sent to Memphis, thence to Corinth and Tuscumbia, to cooperate with ROSECRANS, should the rebels attempt that movement.

H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

Maj.-Gen. GRANT or Maj.-Gen. SHERMAN, Vicksburgh.

On the 14th the following telegrams were sent to Gens. FOSTER, BURNSIDE and HURLBUT:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 14, 1863.

Information received here indicates that part of LEE's forces have gone to Petersburgh. There are various suppositions for this. Some think it is intended to put down Union feeling in North Carolina, others to make an attempt to capture Norfolk; others, again, to threaten Norfolk, so as to compel us to land reinforcements there from the Army of the Potomac, and then to move rapidly against MEADE. Such was the plan last Spring, when LONGSTREET invested Suffolk. It will be well to strengthen Norfolk as much as possible, and to closely watch the enemy's movements. I think he will soon strike a blow somewhere.

H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

Maj.-Gen FOSTER, Fortress Monroe.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 14, 1863.

There are good reasons why troops should be sent to assist Gen. ROSECRANS' right with all possible dispatch. Communicate with SHERMAN to assist you, and hurry forward reinforcements as previously directed.

H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

Maj.-Gen. MURLBUT, Memphis.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 14, 1863.

There are several reasons why you should reinforce ROSECRANS with all possible dispatch. It is believed that the enemy will concentrate to give him battle. You must be there to help him.

H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

Maj.-Gen. BURNSIDE, Knoxville.

In addition to Gen. BURNSIDE's general instructions, a number of dispatches of the same purport as the above were sent to him. Gens. SCHOFIELD and POPE were directed to send forward to the Tennessee line every available man in their departments, and the commanding officers in Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky were ordered to make every possible exertion to secure Gen. ROSECRANS' line of communications. Gen. MEADE was urged to attack Gen. LEE's army while in its present reduced condition, or at least prevent him sending off any more detachments. It seemed useless to send any more troops into East Tennessee or Georgia, on account of the impossibility of supplying them in a country which the enemy had nearly exhausted. Gen. BURNSIDE's army was on short rations, and that of the Cumberland inadequately supplied. Gen. ROSECRANS had complained of his inadequate cavalry force; but the stables of his depots were overcrowded with animals, and the horses of his artillery, cavalry and trains were dying in numbers for want of forage.

As three separate armies were now to operate in the same field, it seemed necessary to have a single commander, in order to secure a more perfect cooperation than had been obtained with the separate commands of BURNSIDE and ROSECRANS. Gen. GRANT, by his distinguished services and superior rank to all the other Generals in the West, seemed entitled to this general command. But, unfortunately, he was at that time in New-Orleans, unable to take the field. Moreover, there was no telegraphic communication with him, and the dispatches of the 13th, directed to him and Gen. SHERMAN, did not reach them until some days after their dates, thus delaying the movement of Gen. GRANT's troops from Vicksburgh. Gen. HURLBUT, however, had moved the troops of his own corps, then in West Tennessee, with commendable promptness. These were to be replaced by reinforcements from STEELE's corps in Arkansas, which also formed part of Gen. GRANT's army. Hearing nothing from Gen. GRANT or Gen. SHERMAN's corps at Vicksburgh, it was determined on the 23d to detach the Eleventh and Twelfth corps from the Army of the Potomac, and send them by rail, under the command of Gen. HOOKER, to protect Gen. ROSECRANS' line of communication from Bridgeport to Nashville. It was known that these troops could not go immediately to the front. To send more men to Chattanooga, when those already there could not be fully supplied, would only increase the embarrassment and probably cause the evacuation of that place. In other words, HOOKER's command was temporarily performing the duties previously assigned to the reinforcements ordered from GRANT's army.

We will now return to Gen. ROSECRANS' army, the main body of which we left on the 14th in the passes of Pigeon Mountain, with the enemy concentrating his forces near Lafayette to dispute his further advance. BRAGG's threatened movements to the right and left were merely cavalry raids to cut ROSECRANS' line of supplies and threaten his communication with BURNSIDE. His main army was probably only awaiting the arrival of LONGSTREET's corps to give battle in the mountains of Georgia. Of the movements of this corps, so well known to the enemy, we could get no reliable information. All we knew positively was that one of LONGSTREET's divisions had arrived in Charleston to reinforce that place. It was said that others had gone to Mobile to protect it from attack by BANKS' army. But, as there was no real danger of such an attack at that moment, it was more probably on its way to reinforce BRAGG's army. But the time of its arrival was uncertain, as we had no reliable information of its departure from Richmond. We knew that BRAGG had been reinforced by troops sent by JOHNSTON from Mississippi, and it was afterwards ascertained that the rebel authorities had falsely declared as exchanged and released from parole, the prisoners of war captured by GRANT and BANKS at Vicksburgh and Port Hudson. This shameful violation of the cartel and of the established usages of civilized warfare, was resorted to by the enemy in order to swell the number of BRAGG's army in the approaching conflict. Gen. ROSECRANS' troops were at this time scattered along an extended line from Gordon's Mills to Alpines, a distance of some forty miles By the 17th they were brought more within a supporting distance, and on the morning of the 18th a concentration was begun toward Crawfish Springs, but was slowly executed.

The battle of Chickamauga commenced on the morning of the 19th, McCOOK's corps forming the right of our line of battle, CRITTENDEN's the centre and THOMAS' the left. The enemy first attacked our left wing with heavy masses, endeavoring to turn it so as to occupy the road to Chattanooga. But all their efforts proved abortive. The centre was next assailed, and temporarily driven back; but being promptly reinforced maintained its ground. As night approached the battle ceased and the combatants rested on their arms. The attack was furiously renewed on the morning of the 20th against our left and centre. Division after division was pushed forward to assist the attacking masses of the enemy, when, according to Gen. ROSECRANS' order, Gen. WOOD, overlooking the direction to close up on REYNOLDS, supposed he was to support him by withdrawing from the line and passing in the rear of Gen. BRANNAN. By this unfortunate mistake a gap was opened in the line of battle, of which the enemy took instant advantage, and, striking DAVIS in the flank and rear, threw his whole division into confusion. Gen. WOOD claims that the orders he received were of such a character as to leave him no option but to obey them in the manner he did. Pouring in through this break in our line, the enemy cut off our right and right centre, and attacked SHERIDAN's division which was advancing to support our left.

After a gallant but fruitless effort against this rebel torrent, he was compelled to give way; but afterwards rallied a considerable portion of his force, and by a circuitous route joined Gen. THOMAS, who now had to breast the tide of battle against the whole rebel army. Our right and part of the centre had been completely broken and fled in confusion from the field, carrying with them to Chattanooga then commanders McCOOK and CRITTENDEN, and also Gen. ROSECRANS who was on that part of the line. His Chief of Staff, Gen. GARFIELD, however, made his way to the left, and joined Gen. THOMAS, who still remained immovable in his position. His ranks had assumed a crescent form, with its flanks supported by the lower spurs of the mountain, and here, like a lion at bay, he repulsed the terrible assaults of the enemy. About half-past three P. M., the enemy discovered a gap in the hills, in the rear of his right flank, and LONGSTREET commenced pouring his massive columns through the opening. Major-Gen. GORDON GRANGER, who had been posted with his reserve to cover our left and rear, arrived upon the field at this critical moment. He knew nothing of the condition of the battle; but with the true instinct of a soldier he had marched to the sound of the cannon. Gen. THOMAS merely pointed out to him the gap through which the enemy was debouching, when quick as thought he threw upon it STEADMAN's brigade of cavalry. In the words of Gen. ROSECRANS' report, "swift was the charge and terrible the conflict; but the enemy was broken." A thousand of our brave men killed and wounded paid for its possession; but we held the gap. Two divisions of LONGSTREET's corps confronted the position. Determined to take it they successively come to the assault. A battery of six guns placed in the gorge poured death and slaughter into them. They charged within a few yards of the pieces; but our grape and canister and the leaden hail of musketry delivered unsparing but terrible volleys from cartridges taken in many instances from the boxes of their fallen companions, was too much even for LONGSTREET's men. About sunset they made their last charge, when our men, being out of ammunition, moved on them with a bayonet, and they gave way to return no more. In the meantime the enemy made repeated attempts to carry Gen. THOMAS' position on the left and front; but were as often thrown back with great loss. At nightfall the enemy fell back beyond the range of our artillery, leaving Gen. THOMAS victorious on his hard fought field.

As most of the corps of McCOOK and CRITTENDEN were now in Chattanooga, it was deemed advisable to withdraw the left wing to that place. THOMAS consequently fell back during night to Rossville, leaving the dead and most of the wounded in the hands of the enemy. He received a supply of ammunition, and during all the 21st offered battle to the enemy. But the attack was not seriously renewed. On the night of the 21st he withdrew the remainder of the army within the defences of Chattanooga.

The enemy suffered severely in these battles, and on the night of the 20th was virtually defeated. Yet being permitted to gather the trophies of the field on the 21st, he is entitled to claim a victory, however barren in its results. His loss in killed, wounded and missing as reported in rebel papers was 18,000.

Our loss in these battles was 1,644 killed, 9,262 wounded and 4,945 missing. If we add the loss of the cavalry in its several engagements at about 5,000, we have a total of 16,351. We lost in material 30 guns, 20 caissons, 8,450 small arms, and 5,834 infantry accoutrements. We captured 2,003 prisoners.

After Gen. ROSECRANS' retreat to Chattanooga he withdrew his forces from the passes of Lookout Mountain, which covered his line of supplies from Bridgeport. These were immediately occupied by the enemy, who also sent a cavalry force across the Tennessee above Chattanooga, which destroyed a large wagon train in the Sequatchee valley, captured McMINNVILLE and other points on the railroad, thus almost completely cutting off the supplies of Gen. ROSECRANS' army.

Fortunately for us the line of the railroad was well defended; and, the enemy's cavalry being successfully attacked by Col. McCOOK, at Anderson's Cross Roads, on the 2d of October, by Gen. MITCHELL, at Shelbyville, on the 4th, and by Gen. CROOK, at Farmington on the 5th, were mostly captured or destroyed. Maj.-Gen. GRANT arrived at Louisville, and on the 19th, in accordance with the orders of the President, assumed general command of the Departments of the Tennessee, Cumberland and Ohio. In accordance with his recommendation, Maj.-Gen. G. H. THOMAS was placed in the immediate command of the Department of the Cumberland, and Maj.-Gen. W. T. SHERMAN of that of Tennessee.

As the supply of the army at Chattanooga demanded prompt attention, he immediately repaired to that place, by bringing up from Bridgeport the Eleventh and Twelfth corps, under HOOKER, and throwing a force from Chattanooga, under W. F. SMITH, on the south side of the river, at Brown's Ferry, the points on Lookout Mountain commanding the river were recaptured on the 27th, 28th and 29th of October. This important success restored his communications with his depots of supplies.

It is not my province, even if I had the means of doing so, to speak of the brilliant exploits of our navy in the Western waters. It may be proper, however, to remark that Gen. GRANT and his department commanders, report that Admirals FARRAGUT and PORTER and their officers have rendered most valuable assistance in all their operations.

GENERAL REMARKS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

It has not been possible in the foregoing summary to refer to all the engagements which our troops have had with the enemy during the past year, as no official accounts or reports of some of them could be found. The details given have been compiled from telegrams, dispatches and reports received through the various bureaus of the War Department. I respectfully recommend that all those official documents and reports received since the beginning of the war be collected and published in chronological order, under the direction of the Adjutant-General's Department. Some have already been published by Congress, but they are so incorrectly printed and badly arranged as to be almost useless as historical documents. The rebel armies live mainly upon the country through which they pass, taking food and forage alike from friends and foes. This enables them to move with ease and great rapidity. Our commanders operating in the rebel States generally find no supplies, and in the Border States it is difficult to distinguish between real friends and enemies. To live upon the country passed over often produces great distress among the inhabitants. But it is one of the unavoidable results of war, and is justified by the usages of civilized nations. Some of our commanders have availed themselves of this right of military appropriation, while others have required too large a supply of trains, and have not depended so much as they might have done upon the resources of the country in which they operated.

Gen. GRANT says, in his official report:

"In the march from Brunesburgh to Vicksburgh, covering a period of twenty days, before supplies could be obtained from the Government stores, only five days rations were issued, and three of these were carried in the haversacks at the start, and were soon exhausted. All other subsistence was obtained from the country through which we passed. The march was commenced without wagons, except such as could be picked up through the country."

Instructions have been given to the Generals operating in hostile territory to subsist their armies so far as possible upon the country, receipting and accounting for everything taken, so that all persons of approved loyalty may hereafter be remunerated for their losses. By this means our troops can move more rapidly and easily, and the enemy is deprived of supplies if he should reoccupy the country passed over by us. Some of our officers hesitate to fully carry out these measures, from praiseworthy, but mistaken notions of humanity; for what is spared by us is almost invariably taken by the rebel forces, who manifest very little regard for the sufferings of their own people. In numerous cases women and children have been fed by us to save them from actual starvation, while fathers, husbands and brothers are fighting in the ranks of the rebel armies, or robbing and murdering in the ranks of guerrilla bands.

Having once adopted the system of carrying nearly ten days' supplies with the army in the field—a system suited to countries where the mass of the population take no active part in the war, it is found very difficult to effect a radical change. Nevertheless our trains have been very considerably reduced within the past year. A still greater reduction, however, will be required to enable our troops to move as lightly and rapidly as those of the enemy. In this connection I would respectfully call attention to the present system of army sutlers. There is no article legitimately supplied by sutlers to officers and soldiers, which could not be furnished at a much less price by the Quartermaster and Commissary departments. Sutlers and their employes are now only partially subject to military authority and discipline, and it is not difficult for those who are so disposed, to act the part of spies, informers, smugglers and contraband traders. The entire abolition of the system would rid the army of the incumbrance of sutler wagons on the march, and the nuisance of sutlers' stalls and booths in camp. It would relieve officers and soldiers of much of their personal expenses, and would improve the discipline and efficiency of the troops in many ways, and particularly by removing from the camps the profligate evils of drunkenness.

I referred in my last report to the large numbers of officers and soldiers absent from their commands. It was estimated from official returns in January last, that there were absent from duty 48,987 officers, and 224,073 non-commissioned officers and privates. Only a part of these were really disabled or sick. The remainder were mainly deserters, stragglers, malingers and shirks, or men who absented themselves to avoid duty. Much of this evil has been abated. Very few furloughs are now given, and officers absent from duty not only lose their pay, but are subject to summary dismissal. Straggling and desertion have greatly diminished, and might be almost entirely prevented if the punishment could be prompt and certain. In this respect our military penal code requires revision. The machinery of Court-Martial is too cumberous for the trial of military offences in time of actual war. To organize such Courts it is often necessary to detach a large number of officers from active duty in the field, and then a single case sometimes occupies a Court for many months. To enforce discipline in the field it is necessary that trial and punishment follow the offence.

In regard to our military organizations, I respectfully recommend an increase of the Inspector-General's Department, and that it be merged in the Adjutant-General's Department.

The grades of commanders of armies and of army corps should be made to correspond with their actual commands. The creation of such grades need not cause any additional expense to the Government, as pay and emolument of generals and lieutenant-generals could be made the same as now allowed to major-generals commanding divisions.

I also respectfully call attention to our artillery organization. In the Fifth regiment of United States artillery each battery is allowed one Captain, four Lieutenants, eight Sergeants and twelve Corporals, and all of these, together with the privates, receive cavalry pay and allowances. In the First, Second, Third and Fourth regiments of United States artillery, a battery is allowed one Captain, three Lieutenants, four Sergeants and four Corporals; and with the exception of two batteries to each regiment, for which special allowance was made by laws enacted on March 2, 1821, and March 3, 1847, all of these receive the pay and allowances of infantry; yet they are all, with the exception of four or five companies, performing precisely similar duties. A field battery of six guns absolutely requires all the officers and non-commissioned officers allowed in the Fifth artillery, and the additional responsibility of officers and labor of both officers and enlisted men render necessary the additional pay and allowance accorded by law to those grades in that regiment. A simple remedy for these evils is the enactment of a law giving the First, Second, Third and Fourth regiments of United States artillery the same organization and same rates of pay as the Fifth regiment, which, it may be added, is also the same as that already given to all the volunteer field batteries now in the United States service.

A similar discrepancy existed in the cavalry regiments till an act passed by the last Congress placed them all upon the same basis of organization and pay. The act authorizing the President to call out additional volunteers or drafted militia limits the call to the cavalry, artillery and infantry arms, and makes no provisions for organizing volunteer engineer regiments. This was, unquestionably, a mere verbal omission in the law, and should be supplied, as it creates serious embarrassments in the organization of armies in the field. The generals commanding these armies complain in strong terms of the deficiency of engineer troops for the repair of railroads, the construction of pontoon, bridges and carrying on the operations of a siege, and urge that the evil be promptly remedied.

The waste and destruction of cavalry horses in our service has proved an evil of such magnitude as to require some immediate and efficient remedy. In the Army of the Potomac there are thirty-six regiments of cavalry, averaging for the last six months from ten thousand to fourteen thousand men present for duty. The issues of cavalry horses to this army for the same period have been as follows: In May, 5,673; in June, 6,327; in July, 4,716; in August, 5,499; in September, 5,827; in October, 7,036. Total, 35,078.

To this number should be added the horses captured from the enemy and taken from the citizens, making altogether an average remount every two months. We have now in our service some 223 regiments of cavalry, which will require, at the same rate as the Army of the Potomac, the issue within the coming year of 435,000 cavalry horses.

The organization of a cavalry bureau in the War Department, with frequent and thorough inspection, it was hoped would, in some degree, remedy these evils. To reach the source, however, further legislation is necessary. Probably the principal fault is in the treatment of their horses by the cavalry soldiers. Authority should, therefore, be given to dismount and transfer to the infantry service every man whose horse is, through his own neglect or fault, rendered unfit for service. The same rule might be applied to cavalry officers who fail to maintain the efficiency of their regiments and companies; the vacancies thus created could be filled by corresponding transfers from the regular and volunteer infantry.

By the existing law, the chief Adjutant-General, Inspector-General, Quartermaster and Commissary of an army corps are allowed additional rank and pay, while no such allowance is made to the chiefs of Engineers, Artillery and Ordnance in the same corps. These latter officers hold the same relative position and perform duties at least as important and arduous as the others, and the existing distinction is deemed unjust to them.

PRISONERS OF WAR.

On the 22d of July, 1862, Maj.-Gen. DIX and Maj.-Gen. HILL entered into a cartel for the exchange of prisoners during the existing war, specially stipulating when and where exchanges should be made and how declared, defining the meaning of a parole and the rights and obligations of prisoners under parole, and when and how they were to be released from these obligations. Special agreements of this kind modifying and explaining the general laws of war, furnish the rule or conduct for the contracting parties in all cases for which they provide or to which they are applicable. Finding that the rebel authorities were paroling prisoners contrary to these stipulations, they were notified on the 22d of May last that all paroles not given in the manner prescribed by the cartel would be regarded as null and void. Nevertheless, they continued to extort, by threats and ill-treatment, from our men paroles unauthorized by the cartel; and also refused to deliver our officers and men for exchange in the manner agreed upon; but retained all colored soldiers and their officers. It is stated that they sold the former into slavery and sentenced the latter to imprisonment and death for alleged violation of State laws. This compelled a resort to retaliatory measures, and an equal number of their prisoners in our hands were selected as hostages for the surrender of those retained by them. All exchanges under the cartel, therefore, ceased. In violation of general good faith and of engagements solemnly entered into, the rebel Commissioner then proceeded to declare exchanged all his own paroled prisoners and order their return to the ranks of their regiments then in the field, and we are now asked to confirm these acts by opening new accounts and making new lists for exchange; and they seek to enforce these demands by the most barbarous treatment of our officers and men now in their hands.

The rebel prisoners held by the United States have been uniformly treated with consideration and kindness. They have been furnished with all necessary clothing, and supplied with the same quality and amount of food as our own soldiers. While our soldiers, who by the casualties of war have been captured by them, have been stripped of their blankets, clothing and shoes even in the Winter season, and then confined in damp and loathsome prisons, and only half fed on damaged provisions, or actually starved to death; while hundreds have terminated their existence loaded with irons, in filthy prisons. Not a few, after a semblance of trial by some military tribunal, have been actually murdered by their inhuman keepers. In fine, the treatment of our prisoners of war by the rebel authorities has been even more barbarbarous than that which Christian captives formerly suffered from the pirates of Tripoli, Tunis and Algiers; and the horrors of Belle Isle and the Libby Prison exceed even those of the British hulks or the Black Hole of Calcutta. And this atrocious conduct is applauded by the people, and commended by the public press of Richmond as a means of reducing the Yankee ranks. It has been proposed to retaliate upon the enemy by treating his prisoners precisely as he treats ours. Such retaliation is fully justified by the laws and usages of war, and the present case seems to call for the exercise of this extreme right. Nevertheless it is revolting to our sense of humanity to be forced to so cruel an alternative. It is hoped self-interest, if not a sense of justice, may induce the rebels to abandon a course of conduct which must ever remain a disgrace to them and their cause.

OUR SUCCESSES.

It is seen from the foregoing summary of operations during the past year, that we have repelled every attempt of the enemy to invade the loyal States, and have rescued from his domination Kentucky and Tennessee, a portion of Alabama and Mississippi, and the greater part of Arkansas and Louisiana, and restored the free navigation of the Mississippi River. Heretofore the enemy has enjoyed great advantages in the character of his theatre of war. He has operated upon short and safe interior lines, while circumstances have compelled us to occupy the circumference of a circle. But the problem is now changed. By the reopening of the Mississippi River the rebel territory has been actually cut in twain, and we can strike the isolated fragments by operating upon upper and more advantageous ground. Although our victories since the beginning of the war have not equaled the expectations of the more sanguine, we have every reason to be grateful to Divine Providence for the steady progress of our arms. In a little more than two years we have captured nearly every important point held by the rebels on the sea coast, and we have reconquered and now hold military possession of more than 250,000 square miles of territory held at one time by the rebel armies and claimed by them as a constituent part of their confederacy. The extent of country thus recaptured and occupied by our armies is as large as France or Austria, or the entire peninsula of Spain and Portugal, and twice as large as Great Britain or Prussia or Italy.

Considering what we have already accomplished, the present condition of the enemy and the immense and still unimpaired military resources of the loyal States, we may reasonably hope the same measure of success as heretofore will bring this rebellion to a speedy and final termination.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. W. HALLECK, Gen.-in-Chief.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

The Battle Before Chattanooga—The Relief of Knoxville.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 6, 1863.

In compliance with your instructions I submit the following summary of the operations of Gen. GRANT's army since my report of the 15th ult.

It appears from the official reports which have been received here that our loss in the operations of the 27th, 28th and 29th of October, in reopening communications on the south side of the Tennessee River, from Chattanooga to Bridgeport, was 76 killed, 339 wounded and 22 missing; total, 437. The estimated loss of the enemy was over 1,500.

As soon as Gen. GRANT could get up his supplies he prepared to advance upon the enemy, who had become weakened by the detachment of LONGSTREET's command against Knoxville. Gen. SHERMAN's army moved up the north side of the Tennessee River, and during the nights of the 23d and 24th of November established pontoon bridges and crossed to the south side, between Citio Creek and the Chickamauga. On the afternoon of the 23d, Gen. THOMAS' forces attacked the enemy's rifle pits between Chattanooga and Citio Creek. The battle was renewed on the 24th along the whole line. SHERMAN carried the eastern end of Missionary Ridge up to the Tunnel; and THOMAS repelled every attempt of the enemy to regain the position which he had lost at the centre; while HOOKER's force, in Lookout Valley, crossed the mountain and drove the enemy from its northern slope.

On the 25th the whole of Missionary Ridge, from Rossville to the Chickamauga, was, after a desperate struggle, most gallantly carried by our troops, and the enemy was completely routed.

Considering the strength of the rebel position, and the difficulty of storming his intrenchments, the battle of Chattanooga must be considered the most remarkable in history. Not only did the officers and men exhibit great skill and daring in their operations on the field, but the highest praise is due to the Commanding General for his admirable dispositions for dislodging the enemy from a position apparently impregnable. Moreover, by turning his right flank and throwing him back upon Ringgold and Dalton, SHERMAN's forces were interposed between BRAGG and LONGSTREET so as to prevent any possibility of their forming a junction.

Our loss in killed, wounded and missing is reported at about 4,000. We captured over 6,000 prisoners, besides the wounded left in our hands, forty pieces of artillery, five or six thousand small arms, and a large train. The enemy's loss in killed and wounded is not known.

While Gens. THOMAS and HOOKER pushed BRAGG's army back into Georgia, Gen. SHERMAN with his own and Gen. GRANGER's forces was sent into East Tennessee to prevent the return of LONGSTREET, and to relieve Gen. BURNSIDE, who was then besieged in Knoxville. We have reliable information that Gen. SHERMAN has successfully accomplished his object; and that LONGSTREET is in full retreat toward Virginia. But no details have been received with regard to SHERMAN's operations since he crossed the Hiawassee, nor of BURNSIDE's defence of Knoxville. It is only known that every attack of the enemy on that place was successfully repulsed.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

THE CITY GOVERNMENT.

[OFFICIAL.]

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

STATED SESSION—FRIDAY, Dec. 11, 1863, 10 o'clock P. M.

Present—Aldermen FOX, Henry, Hall, McCool, Reed, Chipp, Mitchell, Ryers, Jeremiah, Hardy, Ottiwell, Farley, Long.

The President being absent at roll call, on motion of Alderman Chipp Alderman Hardy was called to the chair.

The minutes of December ninth were read and approved.

PETITIONS.

By Alderman Chipp—

Bill of Charles Rooke for fitting up poll in Fifth District, Ninth Ward.

Which was referred to the Comptroller with power.

By the same—

Bill of Wm. McClusky for fitting up poll in Eighth District, Ninth Ward.

Which was referred to the Comptroller, with power.

By the same—

Bill of Stafford & Co. for fitting up polls in Fourth, Seventh and Tenth Districts, Fifteenth Ward.

Which was referred to the Comptroller, with power.

By Alderman Farley—

Bill of G. W. Roome for services to Committee on Reception of the Russian Officers.

Which was laid over.

By Alderman McCool—

Bill of Stafford & Co. for fitting up election polls in First, Second and Third Districts, Fifteenth Ward.

Which was referred to the Comptroller, with power.

By the same—

Bill of William H. Linn and Company, for fitting up First, second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth Election Districts, Eighth Ward, amounting to one hundred and ten dollars.

Which was referred to the Comptroller with power.

By Alderman Farley—

Petition of property owners for removal of Colored Orphan Asylum.

Which was referred to Special Committee having that subject under consideration.

By Alderman ——

Bill of Edward Van Ranst for furnishing coaches to Committee of National Affairs and Harbor Defence.

Whereupon—

Alderman —— presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Comptroller be and he is hereby authorized and directed to draw his warrant in favor of Edward Van Ranst for the sum of two hundred and ninety-three dollars for coach hire to the Committee on National Affairs and Harbor Defence, and charge the same to the appropriation of City Contingencies.

Which was referred to Committee on National Affairs.

By the President—

Bill of James Campbell, to fitting up polls of Fifth Election District of the Sixth Ward, December election, ten dollars.

Which was referred to the Comptroller with power.

By Alderman Jeremiah—

Bill of Patrick McDonough, to fitting up poll of the Eleventh Election District of the Seventeenth Ward, for the December election.

Which was referred to the Comptroller with power.

RESOLUTIONS.

By Alderman Chipp—

Whereas, At the late fire in the vicinity of piers numbers fifty-one, fifty-two, fifty-three and fifty-four North River, the said piers were more or less damaged, the slip obstructed by sunken vessels and other refuse matter, requiring said piers to be rebuilt or repaired, the sunken vessels to be removed, the slip dredged, and the bulkheads between piers fifty-one and fifty-three, inclusive, rebuilt; and

Whereas, Piers numbers fifty-one, fifty-two, fifty-three and fifty-four are leased by the City, and by terms of said leases the City is bound to repair any damage caused by the elements; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Street Commissioner be and he is hereby directed to cause an examination to be made of the aforesaid piers and bulkheads, relative to the probable cost of rebuilding the same; also, the cost of removing the sunken vessels and the dredging of the slips, so as to place them in proper condition for commercial purposes, and report the same to this Board at the earliest moment practicable.

Which was adopted.

By Alderman Farley—

Whereas, Since the salary of the Stock Clerk in the Department of Finance was fixed at its present amount, the expenses of living in this City have increased, it is estimated, more than fifty per cent; and

Whereas, In consequence of the large increase in the number and amount of the loans of the Corporation, the responsibilities and duties of the "Stock Clerk" have greatly increased, and are constantly increasing; therefore,

Resolved, That the salary of the "Stock Clerk" in the Department of Finance be increased to the amount of three thousand dollars per annum.

Which was laid over.

By the President—

Resolved, That the Street Commissioner be and he is hereby authorized to employ a clerk in his office, to be known as Apportionment and Entry Clerk, the salary not to exceed the sum of two thousand dollars per annum.

Which was referred to Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman Farley—

Resolved, That the Comptroller be and he hereby is directed to draw his warrant in favor of George W. Roome for the sum of five hundred dollars, to be in full for services rendered as doorkeeper to the Board of Aldermen from July, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, to October, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and charge the same to the account of "City Contingencies," or any other unexpended appropriation.

Which was laid over.

By Alderman Fox—

Whereas, The salaries of the book-keeper and clerks in the Department of Finance were fixed at a time when their duties were less arduous and the expenses of living much less; and, in view of the increasing amount of labor thrown upon them, caused by the national rise and increasing importance of this City; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the book-keepers and clerks of the Department of Finance be increased as follows:

General Book-keeper to	$3,000 per annum.
First Assistant Book-keeper	2,500 per annum.
Second Assistant Book-keeper	2,500 per annum.
First Auditor	2,500 per annum.
Second Auditor	2,000 per annum.
First General Clerk	3,000 per annum.

Resolved, That the above salaries bear date from the first day of January, 1864.

Which was referred to Committee on Salaries and Offices.

By Alderman Fox—

Resolved, That permission be, and the same is hereby granted to Lawton and White of number eleven Murray-street, to receive and deliver goods on the sidewalk during the pleasure of the Common Council,

Which was adopted.

MOTIONS.

Alderman Farley moved to discharge the Committee on Finance from the consideration of a resolution authorizing the appointment of a suitable person to compile the laws and ordinances relating to this City.

Which was carried.

Unanimous consent being asked and denied.

The paper was laid over.

Alderman Hall moved to discharge the Committee on Sewers from the consideration of a petition of Jonas Conklin and others to be relieved from assessment for sewer in Fifty-eighth-street, between Seventh and Eighth avenues.

Which was carried.

The paper was then laid over.

COMMUNICATIONS.

A communication was received from the Comptroller transmitting statement of appropriations and expenditures, and balance unexpended at the close of the month of November, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

Which was ordered on file.

REPORTS.

The Committee on Croton Aqueduct presented a report and communication from the Comptroller, with an ordinance for a further issue of Water Stock of the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine.

Which was adopted by unanimous consent, on a division, by the following vote:

Affirmative—Aldermen Fox, Henry, McCool, Reed, Chipp, Mitchell, Ryers, Hardy, Farley, Long—10.

The Committee on Croton Aqueduct presented a report to lay a track of bridge stone from the house of Engine Company number Forty-eight to the Ninth-avenue.

Which was laid over.

The Committee on Fire Department presented a report in favor of rebuilding truck for Hook and Ladder Company number Two.

Which was laid over.

PAPERS HERETOFORE LAID OVER.

Report of Committee on Streets, with resolution that Morris-street, from Broadway to West-street, be paved with Belgian pavement, the property owners to pay one-half of the expense, and the City the remaining half, under the direction of the Croton Aqueduct Department, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Affirmative—Aldermen Fox, Henry, Hall, McCool, Reed, Chipp, Mitchell, Ryers, Jeremi

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, DEC. 13, 1863.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

The price of the NEW-YORK TIMES (Daily) is THREE Cents, except of the Sunday morning edition, which is FOUR Cents.

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NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE REBELLION.

Important news from Texas was received yesterday at Washington. Gen. BANKS announces that our forces under Major-Gen. WASHBURNE have seized the approaches to Matagorda. The rebel garrison of Fort Esperanza, consisting of 1,000 men, fled at the approach of our troops, first blowing up the magazines. A high gale prevented the coöperation of the gunboats with the land forces, or the enemy would most likely have fallen into our hands. Ten guns were captured, ranging from 24 to 108-pounders. The command of Matagorda Bay substantially gives us the control of Central and Western Texas, and all the important points on the east coast, except Galveston. The town of Matagorda, situated on the bay, at the mouth of the Colorado River, has a large trade, and is the depot for the produce of the Colorado Valley, which is one of the richest parts of Texas, producing cotton, sugar-cane, rice, indigo and maize.

Correspondence between the rebel officials at Richmond, and the officers charged with the duty of distributing the supplies which were sent for the relief of our suffering prisoners at the Libby and Belle Isle, shows that the rebels have acted fairly in this matter. The clothing and food have been properly appropriated, and cannot have failed to alleviate very sensibly the horrors of captivity in the southern prisons.

The Richmond *Enquirer*, of Thursday last, has been received at Fortress Monroe. It contains a report of doings in the conspirators' Congress, which augurs that stormy discussions may be expected. Mr. FOOTE, of Tennessee, in a speech, denounces JEFF. DAVIS as the cause of all the disasters to the rebel arms, and charges him with exerting a malign influence wherever he has visited the troops, offering to prove that his rulership has almost ruined the country. Adverting to the horrible cruelties practiced upon our prisoners at Richmond, Mr. FOOTE did not scruple to admit that the poor fellows had been reduced to starvation, but threw the blame upon one NORTHRUP, the rebel commissary, whom he charged with having stealthily placed the Government in the dishonorable attitude in which this matter makes it stand. The Senate had passed the bill prohibiting the employment of substitutes in the army.

The rebels say that LONGSTREET'S command is at Rutledge, thirty miles northwest of Knoxville, on the road to Bristol, Southwestern Virginia, and in a comparatively safe position. His rear was skirmishing with our cavalry, but our pursuit is said not to have been vigorous. The Richmond *Examiner* curtly sums up the result of LONGSTREET'S operations in East Tennessee in the word *nothing*. A rebel raiding party had penetrated to Mount Sterling, Ky., encountering a body of our troops whom it claims to have routed after a stout fight. The rebels then burned the Court-house and jail, and returned to Abingdon, Va., with $100,000 in greenbacks in the way of booty.

Rebel reports from Charleston to the 10th mention that a desultory fire is continued by the opposing forces, and GILLMORE had been dropping more shells into the city, doing some damage to the buildings.

Telegrams from Halifax say that the steamer *Chesapeake* and her piratical crew left Shelburne Harbor, N. S., on Friday night. Our gunboats were in pursuit. Capt. WILLETT passed through Boston yesterday afternoon, en route to this City. He gives particulars concerning the murder of one of his officers, which stamp the deed as one of the most atrocious on record.

The fine prize steamer *Minna* was towed yesterday into Fortress Monroe by the U. S. supply steamer *Circassian*, having been captured by that vessel on the 9th inst., in the latitude of Wilmington. The cargo of the prize is very valuable.

On Dec. 8, Gen. GRANT issued the following order :

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI, IN THE FIELD, CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Dec. 8.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 9.—The General-Commanding takes great pleasure in publishing to the brave armies under his command, the following telegraphic dispatch just received from the President of the United States :

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8, 1863.

MAJ.-GEN. GRANT : Understanding that your lodgment at Chattanooga and Knoxville is now secure, I wish to tender you, and all under your command, my more than thanks—my profoundest gratitude—for the skill, courage and perseverance with which you and they, over so great difficulties, have effected that important object. God bless you all.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By order of Gen. U. S. GRANT.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Board of Aldermen, yesterday, unanimously adopted a resolution by Mr. HARDY, tendering the use of the Governor's Room to the Mayor elect, to receive his friends on New-Year's Day. The Comptroller reported that, during the fortnight ending Nov. 30, $58,362 were disbursed from the Relief Fund to 30,460 families. A resolution to increase the pay of Corporation laborers from $1 75 to $2 per day, was lost for want of a three-fourth vote, but the unfavorable vote was reconsidered, and the paper was then laid over. The Board adjourned to Monday, at 1 o'clock P. M.

The Board of Councilmen met at noon yesterday, but immediately took a recess till 5 o'clock, in order to attend the funeral of MARY EMMA, daughter of Councilman KEENAN, who died on Thursday. On reassembling a resolution by Mr. HAYES, authorizing the Joint Committee on National Affairs to have a monument erected on the Catholic soldiers' grave-plot in Calvary Cemetery, at a cost not to exceed $12,000, was read and laid over under the rule. The money necessary for this purpose is already raised, being one of the special items in the City appropriation Bill of this year. A communication was received from the Pilot Commissioners, stating that they have already taken steps to have the hulks of the vessels burned in the slip between Piers Nos. 51 and 54, North River, last week, removed as speedily as possible. The Board to tender the use of the Governor's Room to the Mayor-elect on New-Year's Day. Adjourned to 4 o'clock P. M. on Monday.

The steamer *Chesapeake*, according to the Boston *Traveler*, had on board one hundred bales of cotton, worth probably forty thousand dollars, purchased for the mills for which Messrs. FRANK SKINNER & Co., of Boston, are agents, and ten thousand dollars' worth of sugar, owned in Quebec.

A mortgage was recently put upon record in the office of the Recorder of Cook County, Ill., to which were attached Government stamps to the amount of *one thousand dollars !*

The Washington *Star* states that in the recent stampede of horses from Camp Stoneman, over one thousand animals, valued at $145 each, were drowned in the Potomac and Eastern Branch.

The Louisville *Journal* has some particulars of the battle of Kingston, on Nov. 24, between part of Col. MOTT'S brigade and WHEELER'S cavalry, who were repulsed with heavy loss. The fight continued without intermission for seven hours, and was participated in on our side by the Sixteenth Kentucky, Twenty-fifth Michigan, and six companies of the Second Tennessee cavalry. Artillery was brought into action on both sides, and the shells of the enemy were thrown into the town. The casualties on our side were comparatively slight. The brigade of Col. MOTT numbers 2,700, but only the abovementioned regiments were engaged—the others being posted in the rear of the town, to prevent the enemy flanking them.

Gen. MCPHERSON, commanding at Vicksburgh, has issued orders for changing Col. B. G. FARRAR'S Second Mississippi artillery into cavalry, to operate against the guerrillas, which infest the lower part of the river. The large steamer *Choutean* has been placed at Col. FARRAR'S disposal, and several pieces of artillery have been furnished.

Brig.-Gen. ASBOTH, who was for some time in command at Columbus, Ky., is now stationed at Fort Pickens, Florida.

Breadstuffs were in less demand on Saturday, and prices generally favored buyers. Provisions also attracted less attention; Mess Pork was cheaper. Cotton was more active and was dearer. Groceries were quiet. Whisky was depressed and unsettled early in the day, but closed buoyantly. Petroleum was in moderate demand. The freight market was very firm, with moderate engagements. There were 588 vessels of all classes in port.

The Raising of Armies—Proposed Change in the Conscription Law.

The proposed change in the Enrollment Act, striking out the $300 commutation clause, will, if carried into effect, place our Copperhead brethren in a very awkward predicament. Their great objection to the clause as it stood was that it created a discrimination in favor of the rich, and against the poor. It left it in the power of drafted men who were able to pay the $300 to stay at home, while it forced those of them who were not able to pay it to enter the ranks, and encounter all the risks and hardships of active service. So they preached night and day that the act was a device of the Republicans to throw on the poor Democrats the actual fighting, while they themselves stayed at home and made money, and their preaching was so far successful that it produced the utmost discontent amongst the poorer classes all over the country.

They are now about to have their way in the matter. The exemption clause will almost certainly be struck out, and every man that is drafted will either have to serve or induce another man to take his place. We believe, however, that it is pretty well ascertained that the number of those who are so anxious to see a little fighting, that they will enlist as substitutes for nothing, is exceedingly small. In fact, we doubt very much if anybody whose name happens to be drawn will find a single man in the community, whose love either of him or of the country will be strong enough to induce him to take his place, and assume his responsibilities. So that anybody who is drawn and does not want to serve, will, whether he be rich or poor, have to pay money in order to get somebody else to serve for him ; and the difference between the law as it is, and the law as it is to be, will be that the maximum sum he would have to pay was during the last draft fixed at $300, while in the next draft it will be regulated by the ordinary laws of trade, and nobody can tell how much it will be. In other words, it will depend on the proportion between the number of those who are drafted and are able to pay for substitutes and the number of substitutes in the market. If the former class should be large and the latter small, there is no reason why the price of a substitute should not run up to $1,500 or more ; if there are plenty of substitutes, there is no reason why one should not be had for $50, and we are glad to say we think this latter is the more probable supposition. But in either case there is sure to be a class of drafted persons who will have to serve, simply and solely because they have no money, and cannot raise any. We venture to say, "the oppressed and outraged conscripts," who burnt houses and murdered negroes last Summer, are all in this predicament, and that even if substitutes are to be had for $5 apiece, not one of these gentlemen would be able to escape service if drafted. And herein lies, and will lie the great source of Copperhead embarrassment. How will the Hon. FERNANDO WOOD and the Hon. JAMES BROOKS face the enraged citizens of Mackerelville when they learn that under the new law, as well as under the old one, a large number of residents in that locality will be compelled to exchange their luxurious abodes for the hard boards and coarse fare of the camp, simply because they are a little short of money?

We think it very likely, however, that when this fact becomes a little more apparent than it is just now, we shall have all the Copperhead "halls" resounding with declamation against the policy of allowing drafted men to furnish substitutes at all, in order to get the rich men, and in fact everybody who happens to have a little money, or friends to lend to him, into the ranks. Amongst the many strange theories that have been built up on the original Democratic doctrine is the very strange one that all white men are of equal value to the nation. A legitimate deduction from this is that it is the duty of the Government to see that everybody renders it the same kind of service.

According to this theory, it is the height of unfairness not to put West Point graduates in the ranks, and an infringement of the rights of man to have Gen. GRANT riding about on horseback, when his fellow-citizens are working with spade and pick-axe in the trenches. The notion that a person can serve the State with his brains is ridiculous, and the great test of value as a citizen is gross weight and fighting power. The reason why every nation which has ever put a Conscription Law into force has permitted the furnishing of substitutes, is that it is always anxious to economize as far as possible the most valuable portion of its population—namely, the portion which does the thinking, and planning and superintending. This is the class which, when once diminished or lost, it is hardest to replace, and which more than all other contributes to the national prosperity. It is therefore invariably allowed, as long as it is possible, to provide others to take its place in doing duties purely physical. In war as well as in peace, it best serves the country by doing its everyday work, by carrying on its trade and commerce ; by continuing its inventions and discoveries ; by conducting its legislation and watching over the administration of its laws. And its loss or diminution would injure nobody more than the poor. If ten New-York merchants were forced to serve in the ranks, their absence would probably be the means, directly or indirectly, of throwing one thousand laborers out of employment. Whenever a country is reduced to the necessity of drawing largely on its thinking classes for service in its armies, it can only do so at the cost of its civilization, its wealth and enterprise ; or, in other words, at the cost of everything which gives it rank in the world.

For a nation that owned no force but brute force, would be in our day the prey and sport of any neighbor, however small, that happened to have a good supply of brains and education. We have in the English empire in India an excellent example of the fate which overtakes the mightiest community in numbers, when for any reason it falls behind others in brain power. One hundred thousand Englishmen rule one hundred millions of Hindoos, not because they are braver, but because they know more, and think more.

The Social Question of the Day—Servants and Mistresses.

Complaints in regard to servants reach us from every side. Their "ingratitude," their "stupidity," their "fickleness and uncertainty ;" the poor work which they do, and the bad temper they show ; their unreasonable demands, their eye-service to mistresses and peculations behind their backs—the general untrustworthy character of the whole class—all this is drummed into our ears from innumerable correspondents and indignant readers.

There is much that is true, without doubt, in these complaints. We have not in America a trained, or, we might say, *a professional class of servants*. The persons who apply for situations are those who have been in other occupations, and who mean to make domestic service a step to yet better employment. Our servants are mainly Irish laborers and the wives and daughters of such, or German peasants and their families ; or they are our City poor and their children. They have had no experience in nice housework, no habits of cleanliness or economy—for the lowest laboring class is never saving—nor even an education often in the simplest kinds of cooking. They are, as everybody knows, usually goodnatured and willing, but utterly incompetent at first for their tasks. The consequence is that each house is, at some time or other, a kind of philanthropic "Servants' Institute," where a blundering, slovenly, strong-armed maiden is educated into a neat, handy, serviceable house-helper, who, probably, as soon as she is worth anything to the mistress, takes her departure for a new place, or becomes matron and housekeeper herself. There are probably few American ladies who have not, at some period of their lives, graduated some Irish or German damsel—a fully accomplished and educated housekeeper. This result is inevitable in our circumstances, and, though disagreeable to the instructors, is really a most beneficial one to the whole community. Our household trials are training up a race of good housekeepers and economical providers for the laboring men of the country.

Still, with all this, the wonder is that so many of these girls who do not marry, but remain in service, should prove such poor and uncertain servants. One reason in all probability, is, that there is no inherited and professional character among them. In England, where domestic service is most complete and easy, (though with sufficient troublesome exceptions,) the servants often belong to families of servants, with all the habits, training and long practice of serving-people ; they transmit to one another, or teach to each other, the traditional skill and handiness of their business. With the limited number of persons in America seeking to be domestics, we cannot afford to keep them in distinct and easy branches of housework. Each one has to learn many, and as a consequence, is not so well skilled in any especial branch.

But the great and sufficient reason for the poor quality of our servants, we believe to be the fact that not sufficient wages are paid to call out the best kind of working ability, or to keep it when obtained. A clever girl with her needle, or a skilful cook, or competent gardener, can soon do so much better in a shop or hotel, or by setting up business for themselves, that they will not remain long in families at our present rate of wages. Though expenses of living have now risen some fifty per cent., the wages for female labor have but slightly, if at all, increased. Low wages must draw after them, as by an inevitable law, poor cooks, slatternly housemaids and awkward waiters. Where any business is poorly paid, it will inevitably be poorly done.

Nor have many of our ladies so much right to complain of incompetent and dishonest servants. They themselves are continually sending them forth, without giving any warning to the world. What lady ever takes the trouble to inquire after a servant's "reference," or to write one honestly, or to leave any information at the "Intelligence-office," if the girl has proved incompetent or untrustworthy ? The offices cannot be expected to be any better than their patronesses, and in consequence, there is really no reliable place now where one can be sure of the persons to be employed.

Beside, in most houses in this City, a servant's place is anything but a sinecure. If a woman, she must be ready to work at all hours of the day or evening, with no time for herself, no company or amusement, dependent on the whims and humor of ladies who are often anything but considerate, and with very little hope of saving or acquiring any property, or gaining anything by a very tiresome and troublesome employment. The only wonder is, considering what mistresses are as well as servants, that any "domestic" remains in any family a full year, It is not a relation that calls in any way for "gratitude" on one side, or cultivates much consideration on the other, Novelty or change of place is almost the only relief that the employe can hope for, and mere eye-service is almost all that the employer can expect. The difficulty seems to lie almost in the very nature of the relation in a new country ; and, though it may be relieved by various devices, such as Servants' Institutes and higher wages, we do not expect, for generations to come, any great improvement in this much-vexed matter.

Nurses for the Army.

It is safe to presume that the time of inaction has come to our armies—a time when the campaigns are necessarily closed for the season, when, resting upon their wearied arms, each soldier looks forward to the enjoyment of whatever reforms and benefits are to be initiated or carried out, and for the aid of legislators and civilians in any practical method of alleviating such hardships as he may labor under. In suggesting these reforms and benefits, those which bear upon the event of a battle take first importance. Whatever of manhood there may be in the soldier while in the flush of health, when wounded or sick, he is but a child, and, considered as such, should be the recipient of the most studied and delicate attentions. The letters of our correspondents on the field have told some sad tales of the suffering that has been endured by our brave men from a lack of ambulance and hospital accomodation after a battle. There is no department in our army in which there has been so great a lack of efficiency as in this last—the hospital accomodation, especially that of field hospitals, having been always defective, and in some instances immediately following a battle, criminally so. From the very commencement of this rebellion there has been too great a stretch for high surgery, and too little attention to the after part. It is easy to relieve a man of a leg or arm, but the life of the wounded man is dependent on something more than surgery. Without skillful nursing, his chances would have been almost as good had he retained his maimed or crushed limb, and this nursing can only be got by a more perfect organization of our field hospital system, and by the introduction of responsible nurses. To the sick or wounded man, there is as much in the ideal as the real, and with this fact before us, we shall not leave him to the tender mercies of those who may only regard him as an object of professional interest, or to the hands of male nurses, whose very sex is a depressing circumstance, and not calculated to call forth that repose necessary to recovery. In a word, some organized system of women nurses is required for the army. Our field, if not the general hospitals, should have women nurses, and these, not of the moment, but of an organized and skilled responsibility. We know well the objections that will be cited against the introduction of women within the lines, but the very authorities who raise this objection, and are most vehement for shutting out *amateur* female nurses, are also the strongest indorsers of an organized system. Dr. LETTERMAN, who was medical director of the Army of the Potomac, and induced the issue of the famous order of Gen. HOOKER, in which every woman, without distinction, was sent away from the army, was at the very moment of having this order issued, and always has been, an advocate of employing women in these duties, if any proper system could be inaugurated ; but in common with every surgeon of the army, he would prefer to be without such aid if it was to be incumbered with the burden of amateurs who were unable to take care of themselves, to say nothing of taking care of the sick or wounded.

We believe that some months ago an association of women was formed to achieve an end similar to that which we have stated, dating their headquarters from Washington, but whether they ever succeeded in reaching any point of action or not we do not know. If there is such an organization and there is any drawback to its efficient working, it should at once be removed. The woman nurse in the hospital is as essential as the surgeon in the field, and as by an order from the War Department, of only a few weeks' standing, the door has been somewhat opened to them, by making a provision that they shall receive rations and forty cents per day, while on service and called for by surgeons in charge of hospitals, the time has arrived when something practical should be done toward their introduction. This end will never be achieved until there is an organization or system, for the simple reason that surgeons in charge will not call for woman's aid unless they know in what direction they are calling, and that the call will be responded to by skillful and responsible persons.

THE TWO MESSAGES.—The remarkable Message which JEFF. DAVIS sent to the rebel Congress on Monday last, and which we published in full in the TIMES of yesterday, will furnish as entertaining reading in Europe as it has done in this country. Mr. DAVIS delivered his Message to his Congress in Richmond on Tuesday, and President LINCOLN delivered his Message to the National Congress in Washington on Wednesday, and both of these documents will reach Europe simultaneously. We hope that, though DAVIS' Message is very long, foreigners will read it first, and then follow up the course by perusing LINCOLN. In this way, they will be able to form a tolerably accurate judgment upon several things.

In almost every respect and in every view, the two Messages are precise opposites. The one is gloomy and malignant; the other cheerful and noble-spirited. The one only bewails losses ; the other rejoices over successes. The one speaks of the courage and endurance of his army ; the other accuses his rebel troops of exhibiting a want of these qualities on the most trying occasions. The one dilates upon the bright aspect of our foreign relations ; the other charges the great Powers with persistent unfriendliness. The one is able to speak hopefully of the financial condition ; the other talks of his finances with despair. The one ends with a magnanimous offer to the Southern population ; the other closes with declarations of undying hate. Strength and victory characterize the one ; feebleness, madness and hopelessness the other. Let the doubting world note the differences.

The War in New-Zealand.

The war in New-Zealand is a war of race against race, and both natives and colonists are straining every nerve to make adequate preparation for carrying on the deadly conflict. The Waikatoes are the prime movers in the insurrection, and their influence has drawn in most of the other tribes. The success of Gen. CAMERON, some months ago, seems not to have been of a very decisive character, since the natives have taken up a strong position on the banks of the Waikato River, where, in a place most difficult of access, they have constructed a network of rifle-pits. This *pah* has been twice shelled by a small steamer, which has recently been stationed on the Waikato, but this mode of attack has merely served to annoy the Maori stronghold, which, to be captured, must be assailed in a very different manner. Most important results depend on the issue of Gen. CAMERON'S assault on this native stronghold ; for should he fail to carry it, his failure would be a signal for the tribes that have not yet risen, to arm in support of the native cause. It is doubtless the conviction of the disastrous consequences which would follow from his repulse, that has kept the British General so long inactive. He still occupies the redoubt which his forces threw up beyond the Mauvgawhirri Creek, previously to the fight at Kohivoa, and there he awaits reinforcements from Australia and India, ere he ventures to resume operations. The expected Sikh reinforcements may be dilatory in making their appearance, but the mission of the military agent to Sidney and Melbourne, has been eminently successful, and already large numbers of Australian auxiliaries have arrived at Duckland, while still larger numbers are daily looked for.

Meantime the colonists are leaving nothing undone that can possibly contribute to their security and defence. All the young men have been called out for military service, and such of the elder as are capable of discharging garrison duty, have been enrolled for the protection of the towns. Earthworks have been constructed : the women and children have been removed from the frontier settlements to places of safety, and every precaution has been taken to guard against treachery and surprise. Notwithstanding all their vigilance, however, the whites are occasionally overreached by the wily natives. A party of the Fortieth regiment, for instance, engaged in cutting bush, had stacked their arms at some distance from the scene of their labors, not dreaming of a Maori being within miles of them, when suddenly a band of natives issued from the forest, and succeeded in carrying off more than twenty rifles ere the soldiers could repair to the spot, and of these several lost their lives in the vain attempt to recapture them ; and though another party came to their aid, the natives bore away their prize and made good their retreat.

The English colonists seem to have set their hearts on a measure which promises, if persisted in, to add to the sanguinary character of the conflict. They clamor for the confiscation of the rich lands of the rebellious tribes, and the Colonial Government is evidently disposed to yield to the popular pressure, since it needs the territory, both to enable it to fulfill its promises to the volunteers, and in order that it may raise a loan thereon to meet the expenses of the war. This is an expedient to which we in this country have not yet resorted as a means of stirring up the cupidity and patriotism of our people, despite all our alleged severities against the Southern rebels. But the Angle-Saxon settlers in New-Zealand, are not so fastidious, though, of course, they claim they are stimulated by something more than vulgar covetousness, and desire the confiscation of Maorian territory, not so much because they yearn to possess it, as because they have become sensible that the proximity of the aboriginal race to the settlements, is no longer compatible with their own safety. It seems that it is chiefly this conviction which makes them so anxious to see the natives stripped of their possessions round Auckland, and driven into the interior of the island or to the grave.

But before the contemplated scheme can be carried out, the Maories must be conquered, and the war terminated—achievements which, judging from present appearances, will be neither very speedily nor very easily accomplished.

NOVEL REASONS FOR ENDING THE REBELLION.—The Mobile *Register* has discovered one good result from the war, which entitles it to the credit of ingenuity at all events. It says that one of the leading objects of the rebellion was the cheapening the price of negroes. They had become so dear that none but rich people could afford to own them. The great mass of the whites at the South were completely shut out from the invaluable privilege of slaveholding. Independence and the opening of the Slave-trade, it was believed, would remedy this calamitous condition of affairs. The *Register* thinks the object has been pretty well accomplished already. Nearly a million of slaves have left the Border States and gone down to the Gulf States, and the surplus thus created has lowered the market price of negroes very essentially, so that they are now sold every day at ruinous sacrifices. The *Register* does not think it so important now as it has been hitherto, to continue the war. It makes very little difference what reasons the rebels may invent for abandoning the rebellion ; the main thing is to have them do it—and the quicker the better for them as well as for the rest of mankind.

SATAN'S TRICKS WITH THE REBELS.—Whatever else the rebels may have lost by reason of GRANT'S defeat of BRAGG, they have not as yet wholly lost hope, though the foundations of it may be somewhat different now from what they have been. The Richmond *Whig*, for instance, at the close of an article, in which the writer gives full play to his imagination in making out a scheme of universal Yankee conquest, which, as he says, "would prove no vision, but an actual attempt, if the South were subjugated," still holds on to the belief that the South will not be subjugated ; although he says, "That the South will be overrun seems now not impossible." He admits that the way of the rebels "is exceedingly dark at this time," but he keeps up hope, for, says he, "the overruling power which inspired us to attempt the achievement of our independence will not desert us at the last moment, but will open a way to peace and final success where we least expect to find it."

Our readers will easily see that this is but a paraphrase of the old proverb that "The d—l takes care of his own." But we must say that it shows a lack of knowledge which we are surprised at, for this rebel to be so sure that he will not desert them "at the last moment." That is just the time when he does and always has. It is at the very heighth of the struggle that he abandons those whom he has led into it. It is the last bullet that he misdirects, the last peril that he allows to conquer his victims. It is but in accordance with all rules of history or of fiction, that the dark power which seized the hearts and blinded the intellects and maddened the brains of the Southern leaders, until they rushed down the steep way of rebellion, should hurry them only more fiercely onward that deep sea of destruction which was their inevitable end as soon as they had once started in their course. They may call help and guidance, but it will be in vain. Their only answer will be the mocking laugh with which the fiend jeers at his victims, when they find, with impotent rage, that they have been his dupes, and find it out too late.

OUR PROSPECTS FOR PEACE AND REUNION.—After every grand defeat of the rebel army the Northern public turn their anxious gaze southward, to see if they cannot discern some promising sign of rebel repentance, some desire on their part to give up the wretched job they have undertaken—some symptom of their returning and suing for their "rights," in another manner and in another direction from those in which they have so long been hopelessly pursuing them. We have looked always in vain. Not after Antietam or Gettysburgh—not after Vicksburgh or Chattanooga—not since the shutting up of the whole coast of the Confederacy, or its rending in twain by the opening of the Mississippi, or the piercing of its vitals at Knoxville—not though they have been floored again and again, and been driven back until they now fight in a corner, with their ramshackle edifice tumbling about their ears,—have we had any hopeful indication that the Confederates were prepared even to listen to proffers of peace. The rebels swore they would fight to the last ditch, and it looks as if, at least, some of them meant to carry out their threat. Chattanooga was the key of the last ditch, but still they show fight.

If the aspect is cheerless as we look at the dwindling Confederacy, we see the star of promise in the *rear* of our armies, and steadily advancing as they onward march. They pass across Missouri, driving the rebel hordes before them, and the population *en masse* is eager for peace. They sweep across Arkansas, and we see the same thing—across Tennessee, with the same result—into Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, and nowhere do the cheerful signs fail. A great part of this vast territory and population is now under our control, and requires such legislation, preliminary to their return to the Union, as is dictated by national safety, honor and magnanimity.

FROM NASSAU.

Movements of Blockade-Runners.

Nassau papers of Dec. 2 are to hand. The steamers *Lucy* and *Beauregard* had arrived from Wilmington.

The Bahama *Herald* says : "Advices from Richmond say that the month of December is regarded as the most trying one of the whole war, its entire future and essential final result depending in a very great measure upon the issue."

The steamers *Dee* and *Don* had sailed to run the blockade.

Arrived at Nassau Nov. 30, brig *Surprise*, FULTON, New-York.

Cleared, Nov. 30, brig *W. H. Berry*, DIXON, New-York.

From Newbern, N. C.

THE BLOCKADE VERY IMPERFECT—WILMINGTON GLUTTED WITH SUPPLIES.

NEWBERN, N. C., Sunday, Dec. 5, 1863.

The Wilmington, N. C. papers are full of advertisements offering for sale, by the cargo, goods which have run the blockade. Sugar is selling for three cents a pound, and other goods at the same rate, owing to the immense quantity on hand.

All the railroads from Wilmington are at work night and day, to the exclusion of all other business, conveying supplies to the rebel army and goods into the interior from Wilmington. Over 200 steamers and vessels belonging to different lines are engaged in running the blockade into this one port. Gov. VANCE says in his recent message that the State of North Carolina (which is largely engaged in this business) has received clothing enough through this channel to clothe her troops to January, 1865.

Capt. J. W. DENNY, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts regiment, who enjoys much popularity here, is announced as Chief Provost-Marshal of this Military District. The Medical Director, Surgeon D. W. HAND, of Maj.-Gen. PECK'S Staff, is managing this department with great success. The health of the troops was never as good as at present.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

OUR SPECIAL WASHINGTON DISPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Dec. 11.

THE QUARTERMASTERS' FRAUDS AT ALEXANDRIA

A Court of Inquiry into the recent frauds in the Quartermaster's Department at Alexandria, is now in session. Capt. J. C. LEE, formerly of the Tenth army corps, and recently of the Quartermaster-General's Office, has been assigned to the place of Capt. FERGUSON, Depot Quartermaster at Alexandria. Capt. THOS. C. WHYTAL, of Massachusetts, has been appointed to the charge of the Forage Department.

WHO ARE LIABLE FOR MILITARY DUTY.

A bill will soon be introduced in the Senate by the Chairman of the Military Committee consolidating the several classes liable to do military duty. The list of exemptions will also be greatly reduced.

DISPATCHES TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 12.

MOVEMENTS OF THE RUSSIAN OFFICERS—VISITORS AND THEATRICALS.

Reciprocal courtesies continue between official personages here and the officers of the Russian fleet. Last night the Admiral and several of his officers attended one of the theatres with the Secretary of State, the English, French, Spanish, Russian and Prussian Ministers. To-day the members of the two Houses of Congress, with their families, were received on board the fleet by the Russian Minister, and hospitably entertained with a magnificent banquet.

SALE OF A PRIZE SCHOONER

Messrs. W. L. WALL & Co., to-day, sold the prize schooner *Alma*, captured some time since. She was bought by MCGREADY & PARLETS of Baltimore.

THE GUNBOAT ITASKA DISABLED.

The gunboat *Itaska*, from Philadelphia, on her way to join her station in the Gulf of Mexico, arrived here this morning, her engines having become disabled off Cape Henry.

STAMPEDE OF FIVE THOUSAND HORSES.

Late last night about five thousand horses stampeded from the cavalry camp at Greyboro. An attempt was made to stop them, while passing over the bridge communicating with Washington, but did not succeed. Some of them fell into the river and were drowned. There is busy work to-day pursuing and catching the runaways. A number of them are making a hurried visit to Maryland,

FROM CALIFORNIA.

Gov. Stanford's Message Inauguration of Gov. Low—Recovery of Treasure from the Golden Gate—The Los Angelos Vigilance Committee.

SAN FRANCISCO, Wednesday, Dec. 9.

Gov. STANFORD delivered his annual message to the State Legislature to-day. It exhibits a state of finances more favorable than was anticipated. It represents the agricultural, mining and manufacturing interests in an improving condition, and confidently predicts that the first fifty miles of the Pacific Railroad will be completed within the time required by the act of Congress. Concerning Federal relations, it advocates reconstruction of the Union by treating the seceded States as Territories.

SAN FRANCISCO, Thursday, Dec. 10.

Trade is exceedingly quiet and weather rainy. New-York butter, received by yesterday's steamer, is held at 31c., market firm.

F. F. Low was to-day inaugurated as Governor for the ensuing four years. His message is devoted mainly to pledges as to State policy, and it receives general commendation. He considers it a cause for congratulation that the election of ardent friends of liberty and Union, to represent California in Congress by 20,000 majority, must finally destroy all hope which the foreign or domestic foes of the United States may ever have entertained of receiving aid and sympathy from the Pacific coast.

A new Company, composed of leading capitalists, has been organized, offering to save the monitor *Comanche*, if the Eastern underwriters accept their proposition.

SAN FRANCISCO, Friday, Dec. 11.

Money abundant, but strong security demanded for loans.

Atlantic currency exchange sells at the rate of 38@40 per cent. premium for gold in New-York.

Legal tender notes are worth 70⅞@71⅞ cents.

News has been received from the new wrecking party engaged in searching for treasure where the steamer *Golden Gate* sunk last year. Four additional boxes or treasure have been recovered. The search will be continued while the favorable season lasts.

The Los Angelos Vigilance Committee have taken another prisoner from the possession of the Sheriff and hung him. He had been convicted of an attempt to kill, and sentenced to ten years confinement in the Penitentiary. Previously he had committed murder and confessed his guilt.

From Omaha City.

OMAHA CITY, Nebraska, Saturday, Dec. 12.

Prof. HODGE has taken a survey of the Union Pacific Railroad, and reports that there are easy grades through Cheyenna Pass, and abundant coal and iron ore on the eastern slope of Black Hills, six hundred miles due west from Omaha.

The Hibernia Outward Bound—The Agawam.

PORTLAND, Maine, Saturday, Dec. 12.

The steamship *Hibernia* sailed at 4½ o'clock this afternoon for Liverpool.

The United States gunboat *Agawam* passed Owl's Head at 4 o'clock this afternoon, bound east.

The Canada Bound Inward.

HALIFAX, Saturday, Dec. 12.

The steamship *Canada*, Capt. MOODY, sailed at 4½ o'clock this morning, for Boston, where she will be due to-morrow (Sunday) afternoon.

Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—MOZART'S opera of "Don Giovanni" was given here on Friday night by Mr. ANSCHUTZ'S company, and the house, we are glad to say, was densely filled. The performance was a spirited one in many respects, and, as far as the orchestra was concerned, we do not remember to have ever heard the work better rendered. There are not many opportunities for the chorus, but the few demonstrations that occur were given with great spirit. Mr. ANSCHUTZ played the opera without curtailment, and restored the tenor aria in the first act, which was effectively rendered by Mr. HABELMAN.

On Friday, "Der Frieschutz" will be given for the first time this season.

There is a grand charitable concert at the Academy of Music. A fine programme is provided.

GERMAN OPERA.—The Performance of "Der Freischutz" at the Academy of Music, Friday evening, was in many respects the finest ever given in this City. We have been forced on other occasions, when speaking of Mr. ANSCHUTZ'S representation, to confine ourselves, in a large measure, to well-merited praise of the orchestra and chorus, but last evening the principal artists distihguished themselves so much, that we refer with peculiar pleasure to their efforts. Mad. FREDERICI particularly distinguished herself by a full, varied and intelligent rendition of the difficult *rôle* of *Agatha*. The opening prayer of the second act was rendered most deliciously, and even the awkward and almost impossible quick movement which follows it, was given with vigor and clearness. The *Aennchen* of Mlle. CANISSA was a pretty conception of the part, and the music did not suffer at her hands. Both these ladies are gifted with fine voices, which, with time, will ripen. They are sure to become favorites. Mr. HABELMANN, the tenor, sang admirably. He is a careful artist, with a charming voice, and will also become a favorite. On the orchestra and chorus we have nothing but unlimited praise to bestow. Both these important auxiliaries were perfect. The success of the performance will, we hope, induce Mr. ANSCHUTZ to confine himself as much as possible to a purely German *repertoire*. By so doing, he can avoid comparative criticism, which in German opera is peculiarly unfair.

THE BROADWAY AMPHITHEATRE.—This most attractive establishment—WALLACK'S old Theatre—is a "Circus," although called an "Amphitheatre," and, in all respects, it is far in avance of any similar establishment that has made a bid here for public patronage. It has received it, and the question of its success is settled, all owing to the elegance of its appointments, the talent of its artists, and the scrupulous care taken to make it a most entertaining and unexceptionable place of amusement. It is nightly thronged with the best character of audiences, and the old as well as the young will find a fund of amusement in visiting it. For the benefit of families, Wednesday and Saturday afternoon performances are given. A more varied and satisfactory programme than the Amphitheatre presents, cannot be selected.

THE MENAGERIE.—The Menagerie, Nos. 539 and 541 Broadway, continues as a great attraction. Fitted up admirably for its purposes, the building itself is a novelty, while the collection of animals is the largest and finest ever exhibited in this country. The superb giraffe alone repays a visit. The performances of the elephants and of the mules are full of interest and amusement. The morning performances are especially arranged for ladies and children. No exhibition combines more of novelty, entertainment and instruction than does the menagerie.

President Lincoln's Plan for Reconstruction —Views from Washington.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 10, 1863.

The conflicting theories and speculations which have been afloat for a twelvemonth past in regard to the mode of restoring the rebellious portions of the South to their allegiance, and to the enjoyment of peace and protection under the Constitution have been happily blended into a practical measure by the President's Proclamation and Message. Those who maintained the the States in rebellion had ceased to be States, and that they should be treated as unorganized territories; and those who advocated the contrary theory, will find in the Proclamation that practically the President has secured all that either had in view. The great object of one class of persons was to secure the abolition of Slavery, and of the other, to maintain the ancient landmarks, and in some sort, the continued existence of the States. Both these ideas are embodied in the plan of the President.

There are those who think that any plan of reconciliation and restoration is premature at present; but it is only necessary to recur to the actual condition of things in Arkansas, Tennessee and Louisiana, to remove all doubt as to the propriety of the President's course. In each of these States the rebel power is completely broken, and their populations are practically without any regular governments. The rebel State functionaries have run away, and there remains only the military control of the General Government. This is very necessary to prevent the inroads of the enemy, and to crush the latent disloyalty which would otherwise break forth; but there still is lacking the machinery of Civil Government, Courts of Justice, and a constabulary force for the preservation of order.

The plan, suggested by the President, is admirably fitted to supply this want. In the total disruption of Southern society, which the rebellion has caused, in the waste and dispersion of the male inhabitants of mature age, it would be absurd to expect that half of the voting population could now be rallied, or even found within the limits of the States. If, therefore, one-tenth of those who voted in 1860, can now be found ready to take the oath of allegianee presented, the General Government will be well warranted in recognizing them as "the people" with authority to reconstruct the machinery of State Governments, upon the conditions stipulated. I regard the appearance of the Proclamation as most opportune. Each of the States named above are not only in a condition to require the reorganization of loyal State Governments, but they have held public meetings and conventions for that purpose, and leading minds in them have taken strong ground in favor of emancipation. ANDREW JOHNSON, MAYNARD, BROWNLOW and others in Tennessee; GANTT and the Unionists of Arkansas are fully alive to the necessity of emancipation as the preliminary step to reconstruction. The same will be the case in North Carolina and other States as soon as they shall be relieved from the tyranny which oppresses them.

The Proclamation, therefore, was eminently appropriate as to time. It was demanded by the actual condition of things in several of the States which have been reclaimed. It was also demanded as an authoritative response to the oft-repeated inquiry "what will you do with the rebellious States when you shall have conquered their armies?" This question has been put by the rebels themselves, by their sympathisers in the loyal States, and by the enemies of Republican Government in the Old World. These querists are now answered to their heart's content. To the question, "What will he do with it?" President Lincoln has given Sir BULWER LYTTON and all others who echo it, an answer which may not satisfy, but which it will puzzle him and them to answer back. The slave hunters will learn from it that their occupation is gone forever. The enemies of Republicanism, who at the same time affect to hate Slavery, will find that what they most fear—the Union—is to be preserved by the destruction of what they pretend most to detest. Slavery, and they will be placed in the embarrassing position of being required by common decency to suppress the emotions of sorrow and indignation.

The Proclamation will have another salutary influence. Public opinion has made great strides within the past six months, in the direction of freedom. Every week has developed some new and startling fact in illustration of this change of opinion. One day we were told that ANDREW JOHNSTON and his friends in Tennessee had declared for emancipation. Next that MAYNARD and BROWNLOW had come out against Slavery—next that WINTER DAVIS had openly advocated not merely emancipation, but the enlistment of slaves, and that he pledged the world in a public speech to carry Maryland on these issues, by twenty thousand majority. In a few weeks we find his astounding prediction more than fulfilled, while in Missouri the only political parties are known as the Radical and the Conservative emancipationists. Meanwhile the Free States rolls up unprecedented majorities in favor of the same liberal policy; and now comes the Proclamation of the President to clinch the nail by declaring that the Union is to be reconstructed on the basis of general emancipation. The public mind was ripe for this transcendently important measure. The loyal population of the country will sustain with enthusiasm the policy of the President, and thus secure its triumph. There was a general feeling that the Confiscation Act was too sweeping in its scope, and that its enforcement, if at all practicable, in all its length and breadth, would be attended with an amount of cruelty and wretchedness only paralleled in the worst days of the worst despotisms. But the wisdom of the law-makers was shown in conferring upon the President the amplest discretionary powers to mitigate its rigors; and that President LINCOLN has exercised this power with a wise discrimination all right-minded men will agree. All except the leaders can be restored to the enjoyment of their rights and property under the Constitution on the easy condition of surrendering all claim to a species of property which their own wickedness and folly have rendered worthless; while the great majority who never owned slaves will have no sacrifice whatever to make by laying down their arms. Of the million of Southern men who have taken up arms against the Government, or otherwise subjected themselves to the penalties of the Confiscation Act, not more than one hundred and fifty or two hundred thousand are slaveholders, and hence, eight out of ten have nothing whatever to lose, and everything to gain, by accepting the President's offer of peace and pardon. The owners of slaves must ae convinced that in a pecuniary point of view, they will be great gainers by the restoration of their titles to their lands and personal effects, together with their lives; while none but the leaders, consisting of less than a thousand men, will be left without hope, except in the success of their diabolical enterprise. The Proclamation is, therefore, in the highest degree politic, as well as beneficent. It will undermine the rebellion by offering easy and liberal conditions of reconciliation. It "proclaims liberty throughout the land," and has thus secured in advance the promised blessing of God. It will rally every loyal heart to the support of the Government, and at the same time disarm the criticism of enemies at home and abroad. In a word, it will tend powerfully to the overthrow of the rebellion, while it will forever extinguish its cause.

In this connection it may be remarked that the President has probably committed an oversight by failing to exclude the rebel State officers from the benefits of his offer of pardon. This omission concedes to such men as JOHN LETCHER, rebel Governor of Virginia, ISHAM G. HARRIS, of Tennessee, and other rebel Governors, with the members of State Conventions who voted for secession, and of State Legislatures who have exercised a controlling influence for evil, an immunity which they have not deserved. But this oversight can easily be corrected. OBSERVER.

Treatment of Volunteer Recruits in this City—The Payment of Bounties.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

The attention of the public has already been called to the gross wrongs perpetrated on many of the men who have recently volunteered as soldiers in this City and county. The wickedness of these wrongs was so apparent, that Maj.-Gen. DIX, on the 3d inst., issued an order to Gen. HAYS, acting Provost-Marshal-General, directing that every effort should be made on the part of United States officers in this department, to save the men who were enlisting here, from being swindled on the very moment they were mustered into the national service.

The Government authorities are doing all they can to insure full justice to the brave men who come from all sections of the country to swell the number of volunteers from this City; but the management of that part of the business which falls to the New-York County Volunteer Committee, merits the condemnation of the press and of our citizens. Under the present system all volunteers are obliged to pass through the hands of brokers and runners, and there are numerous cases where volunteers who should have received the three hundred dollars bounty promised by the City, have been paid but one hundred, and sometimes only fifty dollars, the balance of the soldier's money remaining in the hands of the agent or runner. There are men to-day, at the rendezvous at Riker's Island, who have suffered this foul wrong, and while the parties who are engaged in this traffic are believed to be known to the Volunteer Committee, they are still permitted to draw large sums of money for recruits who are now passing through their hands.

A visit to the room in Broadway, where this business is conducted, will satisfy any reasonable man that the present plan of paying bounties by the Committee is wrong, and if the same system is longer continued, it will be *wickedly* wrong on the part of the authorities, for the question then will be, will the Committee, when the facts are known to them, virtually lend themselves to a gigantic plan of swindling the volunteers.

Printed forms are issued by the Committee, but it is with difficulty only that any one except brokers and runners can procure them, and while the recruits are not taken before the Committee, these brokers and runners seem to have matters in their own hands. Complaints have been frequently made by friends of the soldiers, and poor women have gone pleading their cause before the officials, but very seldom with any good result; and still the work goes on.

The remedy that is demanded is that the Volunteer Committee shall pay the bounty money directly into the hands of the recruits, who then can use their money in any way they see fit. The brokers are entitled to $15 for new recruits, and $25 for veterans. This should be sufficient to pay them, unless the party most interested—the soldier himself—is willing to pay a bonus also.

There are subscriptions now being paid by banks and individuals to the Volunteer Fund, but it is the duty of every man and every institution to make one of the conditions of their subscriptions, that the money shall be paid directly to the volunteer.

Gen. HAYS, the Provost-Marshal-General, has offered to hire a large building where the Examining-Surgeon and the Mustering-Officer should transact their business, provided the County Committee will occupy the same building, and pay directly to the recruit the money they are entitled to.

The whole system needs a change, and not one dollar more should be paid out to any broker or agent. It is only right to say that many brokers are honest men, but the temptation to wrong the soldier is very great; and as they are sent away to camp or the army, the cases where justice is done after the wrong has been committed, are few and far between.

Pickpockets in New-York.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Allow me through the TIMES to inform the public of the prevalence of pocket-picking in this City. At churches, in and about places of amusement, at markets, in cars, and wherever people customarily crowd together, there is much danger of those having wallets about them unexpectedly finding themselves victimized. This crime of stealing pocket-books is the more aggravating, as the thief generally gets papers of no use to him, and which are destroyed to prevent detection, while they are of importance to the rightful owner. The money which these pickpockets so meanly get is too often taken from those who, when they lose their pocket-book, lose all the money they have. To the poor their purses are not "trash," as they too surely know when suddenly deprived of them.

Being myself a loser and a sufferer, I have mentioned my misfortune to some of my acquaintances, and have been surprised to find that many of them have recently suffered losses by pocket picking; and I find by inquiry of car conductors and Police officers, that this crime is so prevalent as to demand that these thieves should be to some extent cleared out of our City. To those who do suffer by the loss of a pocket-book, it may be said that our present Police system can afford little or no aid toward the recovery of it or its contents, not even if their money be marked. The detective force is so ridiculously small for such cities as New-York and Brooklyn, that I suppose no aid from that department can be afforded to those who lose only a pocket-book with an ordinary amount of money in it, or papers of much importance.

It may be said that persons should not carry money with them; but it may be asked where are thousands of people to carry or keep their money, if it be not safe about them. And if those who can get along with simply a few car-fares in their pockets are to carry no money with them, what would become of the retail trade of these great cities? Also, if those having money with them are to look on whomsoever may come in contact with them in these crowded cities as probable thieves, we shall, in short time, have manners not suited to civilized society.

This evil of pocket-picking is one which those who have not suffered from it, are inclined to consider as a joke—sometimes a good one, sometimes a serious one—in a small way, and let it alone, trusting that their caution will save them. The occasional losses of small amounts of money, are not, as before remarked, the main troubles. Rascals always thrive at the expense of honest people, and it would become "our rulers" to secure industry its rewards against the vermin which, rat-like, are always doing more damage than what is really necessary to satisfy their own thieving propensities. HAROLD.

NEW-YORK, Monday, Dec. 7, 1863.

Obituary.

LIEUT.-COL. TREPP.

—Lieut.-Col. TREPP, of the First regiment U. S. S. S., (BERDAN'S sharpshooters,) was killed while in the advance skirmishers, on the 2d of December, on the battle-field of Mine Run. Lieut.-Col. TREPP was a Swiss by birth, and was a Lieutenant and military instructor in the Swiss army. On the breaking out of the Crimean war he joined the Foreign Legion, and served faithfully and with distinction throughout the whole of that campaign. Immediately after the closing of that war he emigrated to this country and carried on his profession as architect. When the rebellion broke out he joined the first company of United States Sharpshooters, which was recruiting in Weehawken, N. J., of which he was Captain. During the campaign he was promoted to a Lieutenant-Colonel for his bravery and gallantry while leading his regiment. He served in all the battles, except in the second Bull Run, until he was pierced by a musket ball at the late engagement on Mine Run. He leaves a wife and three children to mourn his loss.

Arrivals in the City.

Gen. Geo. S. Hartsuff and Col. E. P. Warren, U. S. Volunteers; Col. H. G. Brooks, Dunkirk; E. N. Chapin, Nevada Territory, and A. M. Hunger ord and son, are at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyons and daughter, Ireland; Chas. Cavendish, London; Capt. A. Low and Assistant Surgeon D. H. C. Colburn, U. S. Volunteers, and W. P. Draper, Boston, are at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Byron Sprague, Providence, R. I.; Capt. W. W. Allen, Dartmouth; H. Ballard and wife, Albany, and F. K. Moore, U. S. Army, are at the Astor House.

HAD HIS POCKET PICKED.—Last night Mr. T. F. LANSING, residing at the Exchange Hotel, while looking on at the fire in Greenwich-street, had his pocket picked of $55.

A New Perfume for the Handkerchief. Extract of the

Night Blooming Cereus,
Night Blooming Cereus,
Night Blooming Cereus,
Night Blooming Cereus,
Night Blooming Cereus,
Night Blooming Cereus,
Night Blooming Cereus,

A Most Exquisite, Delicate and Fragrant Perfume, Distilled from the Rare and Beautiful Flower from which it takes its name.
Manufactured only by PHALON & SON.
BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS.
ASK FOR "HALON'S"—TAKE NO OTHER.
Sold by Druggists generally.

Gold Pens—THE BEST AND THE CHEAPEST, AT A. MORTON'S, No. 25 MAIDEN-LANE, New-York

Holiday Hats.

Purchasers of hats for the holiday season will find an unequaled variety of the most beautiful and the latest styles, at
WHITE'S, No. 216 BROADWAY.
Furs of all kinds are also sold at
PEACE PRICES.
Less than cost.

Batchelor's Hair Dye,

The best in the world, the only reliable and perfect dye known. Instantaneous and harmless. The genuine is signed WILLIAM A. BATCHELOR. Sold by all druggists and perfumers. Factory No. 81 Barclay-st.

Bargains, Great Bargains.

Warm Undershirts and Drawers at Retail. The cheapest store in the City. Splendid Scarfs and Ties for the Holidays. No. 101 William-st., four doors below John-st.
GEO. M. TRACY, Agt.

A Most Useful Holiday Present.

FISH'S PATENT LAMP HEATING APPARATUS. Pamphlets furnished gratis.
W. D. RUSSELL, Agent, No. 208 Pearl-st., New-York.

Gold Pens.

FOLEY'S Celebrated "Bank" and extra fine GOLD PENS AND PENCILS.
Store and Factory No. 169 Broadway.

Sewing-machines to Rent.

And for Sale—New.
V. W. WICKES, Jr., No. 486 Broadway,
Corner of Broome-st., up stairs.

Diamond Parlor Matches,

IN ROUND AND SLIDE BOXES.
At No. 66 Cortlandt-st., New-York

The Best Books for Holiday Presents.—Beautifully bound ENGLISH BIBLES, UNITED STATES EPISCOPAL PRAYER BOOKS, CHURCH SERVICES, &c., in endless variety of size and price.
KYRE & SPOTTISWOODE,
No. 22 Broadway, New-York

The Palmer Arm and Leg.—B. FRANK PALMER, inventor and patentee, Astor-place, (ground floor, N. Y.; also Philadelphia and Boston. Only houses of Palmer & Co. Avoid imposition by calling on the inventor.

Trusses, &c.—MARSH & CO'S Radical Cure Truss Office, only at No. 2 Vesey-st. Also supporters, suspensory bandages, silk elastic stockings for varicose veins, shoulder-braces, &c. A lady attendant.

Cottages and Lots—Beautifully situated at Bellplain, accessible by horse cars. Price and terms adapted to the means of laboring men. Attend the meeting of the Association on Monday evening, at No. 151 Bowery, and learn particulars. J. S. MITCHELL, President.

For the Hair, Barry's Tricopherous.—The best and cheapest article. Sold by all Druggists.

MARRIED.

DE SARA—THIERIOT—In Panama, N. G., on Tuesday, Nov. 24, by Rev. Frederick Davies, Chaplain of H. B. M. ship *Bacchante*, EUGENE DE TOLY DE SARA, of Panama, and MATHILDE, daughter of Ferdinand Thieriot, of Jersey City.

MORRIS—SANDERSON—On Saturday, Feb. 14, 1863, by Rev. Dr. Smith, JOHN P. MORRIS, Esq., and LAURA, daughter of Joseph M. Sanderson, Esq., all of this City. No cards.

DIED.

BERGEN—On Saturday morning, Dec. 12, MARIA RAYMOND, infant daughter of Rufus S. and Angelique Bergen, aged 1 month and 16 days.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, on Monday, Dec. 14, at 12 o'clock A. M., from the residence of her parents, No. 67 Madison-place, Oak-st.

☞ Greenpoint and Jamaica (L. I.) papers please copy.

CARPENTER.—In Brooklyn, on Thursday, Dec. 10, AUGUSTUS BROADHEAD, infant son of Rev. Hugh S. and Louise Carpenter, aged 9 months and 6 days.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, from the residence of his parents, No. 6 Carroll-place, on Monday, Dec. 14, at 11 o'clock A. M. The remains will be taken to New Utrecht for interment.

HOLMES—On Thursday, Dec. 10, after a lingering illness, LUKE BENDIL, third son of Luke H. and Caroline Holmes, aged 17 years.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, without further invitation, from the residence of his father, No. 40 East 21st-st., on Monday morning next, Dec. 14, at 10 o'clock. The remains will be taken to Stamford, Conn., by the train that leaves 27th-st. at 12 o'clock.

HUGHES—On Thursday, Dec. 10, EDWARD B. HUGHES, son of the late Edward Hughes, Esq., aged 28 years.

The friends of the family, and of the family of his wife's father, Joseph T. Sanger, Esq., are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, on Sunday, Dec. 13, at 1½ o'clock P. M., at the Bedford Congregational Church, corner of Cleve road and Pacific-st., Brooklyn.

INGHAM—CHARLES C. INGHAM, N. A., portrait painter, after a short illness, on Thursday, Dec. 10, aged 66 years.

His friends, the friends of the family, and those of his brother Thomas and the members of the National Academy of Design, of which he has been an Academician for near 40 years, are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, at his residence, No. 351 West 34th-st., on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 13, at 2 o'clock, without further invitation.

LAPORGE.—On Friday, Dec. 11, PETER LAPORGE, aged 47 years, 9 months and 11 days.

The relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from his late residence, No. 42 North 5th-st., Williamsburgh, on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 13, at 1 o'clock. The remains will be taken to Greenwood Cemetery for interment.

☞ Staten Island papers please copy.

OFFICIAL DRAWINGS OF MURRAY, EDDY & CO'S
KENTUCKY AND MISSOURI STATE LOTTERIES.

KENTUCKY. CLASS 636.—Dec. 12, 1863.
NOT RECEIVED.

Circulars sent free of charge, by addressing either to MURRAY, EDDY & CO., Covington, Ky., or St. Louis, Mo.

DRAWING OF THE
SHELBY COLLEGE LOTTERY, OF KENTUCKY.

EXTRA CLASS 737—Dec. 12, 1863.
44 43, 28, 31, 19, 54, 1, 38, 21, 60, 62, 40.

CLASS 738—Dec. 12, 1863.
71, 59, 37, 9, 61, 75, 32, 41, 39, 50, 23, 77.

Z. E. SIMMONS & CO., Managers.
Successors to John A. Morris & Co.

NOTICE.—THE ONLY LEGALIZED LOTTERIES in the United States are those of Z. E. SIMMONS & CO., MURRAY, EDDY & CO., and FRANCE, ELLIS & CO. All others are frauds.

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NO. 150 BOWERY, CORNER BROOME-ST., N. Y.
Fine gold and silver watches, rich jewelry and diamonds, sterling silver ware, bridal presents, card albums, &c., &c. We manufacture our own silver-plated ware, such as tea sets, urns, casters, baskets, forks, spoons, &c. We double-plate all that we sell, and our prices are as low as the lowest.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

SPIRITUAL MEETINGS OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE NEW DISPENSATION, every SUNDAY at 10½ A. M., 3 and 7½ P. M., at Hall No. 435 6th-av., between 30th and 31st sts. Removed from No. 964 Broadway. Wednesday at 3, and Friday evening, at 7½, at same place; Tuesday evening, at No. 621 6th-av.; Wednesday evening, at No. 246 8th-av. Thursday evening, at Grenada Hall, at No. 112 Myrtle-av., Brooklyn. Collections taken up to defray expenses.

DR. P. B. RANDOLPH WILL SPEAK SUNDAY, Dec. 13, corner Broadway and 23d-st. Seats free. Subject, 10½ A. M.—*Is Man Immortal? If So, Why?* At 3 P. M.—*Public Conference and Discussion*, subject selected by the audience. At 7½ P. M., oration by Dr. RANDOLPH; subject—*Do Spirits Communicate?* Questions answered at the close of each speech. The celebrated Mysterious Ghostly Pictures will be on view and for sale.

MARINERS' CHURCH OF THE NEW-YORK PORT SOCIETY—Corner of Madison and Catharine sts. Seats free. Course of Sabbath evening sermons. The next sermon of the course will be delivered by Rev. Dr. J. P. NEWMAN, of the Methodist Church, New-York, on SUNDAY, Dec. 13, at 7½ P. M. Preaching at 10½ A. M., by the Pastor, Rev. A. MCGLASHEN, as usual.

REV. NEWTON HESTON, PASTOR OF the State-st. Congregational Church, near Hoyt-st., Brooklyn, will preach on SUNDAY, at 10½ A. M., and at 7½ P. M., his fifth sermon on the United States in Prophecy. Subject: *Is the United States Identical with the Restored Israel of Prophecy?* Sunday School at 9 and 2½ o'clock.

NOTICE.—THE SECOND OF THE COURSE OF sermons on the Liturgy will be preached next SUNDAY EVENING, 13th inst., by Rev. F. D. HUNTINGTON, D. D., in Calvary Church, corner of 4th-av. and 21st-st. Subject.—*The Spirituality of the Liturgy.* Services to commence at 7½ P. M. A collection will be made in aid of the free distribution of prayer-books.

SEVENTH-ST. M. E. CHURCH, BETWEEN 2d and 3d avs. Sermon in the morning at 10½ o'clock, by Rev. S. A. SEAMAN. Sacraments of the Lord's Supper and Baptism at 3 o'clock P. M. Sermon in the evening at 7 o'clock by the Pastor Rev. F. BOTTOME. Subject: *Persuasives to Early Piety.* Strangers particularly welcome. Seats free.

THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS *Rejected has become the Chief Head of the Corner.* This text, which illustrates our national policy, past and present, will be the foundation of a discourse by Dr. CHEEVER, at the Church of the Puritans, Union-square, on SUNDAY EVENING, considered in its application to liberty in the Constitution.

"THE REPRESENTATIVE SINNERS OF THE BIBLE"—*Absalom, the Traitor*, will be the subject of the 12th discourse in this series, by Rev. WM. A. BARTLETT, on SUNDAY EVENING, at 7½ o'clock, at the Brooklyn Tabernacle. Preaching in the MORNING also by the Pastor, at 10½ o'clock. Sabbath School at 9 A. M. and 2½ P. M.

ANNIVERSARY EXERCISES OF THE Greene-st. M. E. Sunday School. Grand Juvenile Concert, with readings, recitations, colloquies, tableaux, &c., to be held in the church, Greene-st., between Broome and Spring, THURSDAY EVENING, Dec. 17, 1863. Tickets 25 cents. Should the weather prove unfavorable, the concert will take place on the next (Friday) evening.

REV. HUGH SMITH CARPENTER, OF Brooklyn, will preach, by request, the first of a series of sermons, to pastors of different churches, upon topics calculated to unite all evangelical Christians, in the church two doors west of Broadway in 28th-st., on SUNDAY EVENING, at 7½ o'clock. Subject—*Church Scope.* People of all beliefs, or no belief, invited.

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—Broome-st., two blocks east of Broadway—Preaching on SUNDAY by Rev. JAMES B. DUNN, at 10½ A. M., and 7½ P. M. Evening subject—*Pilgrim in the Valley of the Shadow of Death*, being the next in the series Pilgrim's Progress. Sabbath School at 9 A. M. and 2 P. M.

ANCIENT CHARLESTON; OR, JERICHO, THE ACCURSED CITY.—Rev. I. S. KALLOCH will preach the next sermon in the series, upon *The Cities of the Bible*, SABBATH EVENING, in the Laight-st. Church, corner of Laight and Varick sts., St. John's Park. He will also preach in the MORNING upon *The Elements of a Good Church.*

SOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, corner of President and Court sts., Brooklyn.—The congregation of this Church will worship in their lecture-room. Preaching on SUNDAY by Rev. EDWARD TAYLOR. Services, 10½ A. M. and 7½ P. M. Sabbath School at 2½ o'clock P. M.

BEHOLD HE COMETH!—THE SECOND Advent Church of Mount Zion worships in Union Buildings, No. 163 Bowery. The messenger who heralds the coming Saviour, will preach on SUNDAY, at 3 o'clock, P. M., on the *fulfillment of the Sure Word of Prophecy.* Seats free.

FRENCH PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH "DU ST. ESPRIT," West 22d-st., near 5th-av.—SUNDAY, Dec. 13, morning services in French, by the Rector, Rev. Dr. VERREN, commencing at 10½ o'clock. Evening services in English, by Rev. J. CAMPBELL WHITE, D. D., commencing at 7½ o'clock

GREENE-STREET M. E. CHURCH—Between Broome and Spring sts.—Rev. JAS. K. WARNER, Pastor, will preach on SUNDAY, at 10½ o'clock A. M., and at 7 o'clock P. M. Sacrament at 3 o'clock P. M. Seats free. Anniversary of the Sunday School on THURSDAY EVENING.

PROF. MATTISON WILL PREACH, AS usual, in his Church, in 41st-st., near 6th av., on SUNDAY, at 10½ A. M., and at 7½ P. M. Morning subject—*The Mission of Earthly Sorrow.* Evening—*Theatres, Cards and Dancing as Christian Amusements.* A cordial welcome to all strangers.

ATHENEUM.—REV. MATTHEW HALE SMITH will preach in the Atheneum, Brooklyn, corner of Clinton and Atlantic streets, on SUNDAY, at 10½ A. M. and at 7½ P. M. Evening course of *Great Revivals in the Dark Ages—God's Call to Luther.* Sunday School Concert at 2½ o'clock, P. M.

CHURCH OF THE PURITANS.—REV. DR. CHEEVER will repeat, by request, SUNDAY EVENING, in the Church of the Puritans, his Thanksgiving discourse on *The Stone which the Builders Rejected becoming the Head of the Corner.* Services at 7½ o'clock. Dr. CHEEVER will preach in the MORNING also at 10½.

REV. ISAAC WESCOTT WILL PREACH in Bloomingdale Church, 42d-st., between 7th and 8th avs., on SUNDAY, at 10½ A. M. and 7½ P. M. In the morning, on *Divisions in Families, occasioned by Religious Matters*, Matt. x., 34. In the evening, *The Life of Daniel.* Sunday School at 9 A. M. and 2 P. M.

THE TRUSTEES OF THE MADISON-AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH have engaged the chapel of the Home of the Friendless, on 29th-st., near Madison-av., for divine service. Rev. JOHN H. RAYMOND, D. D., will preach on SUNDAY AFTERNOON at 3 o'clock.

ALL SAINTS' PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH, corner of Henry and Scammel sts. SUNDAY services at 10½ o'clock A. M. and 7½ P. M. The rector, Rev. S. H. CORNELL, will preach MORNING and EVENING. Seats for all.

MEMORIAL CHURCH—HAMMOND-STREET, corner of Waverley-place.—Rev. Dr. GRENELEAF, Rector of Emanuel Church, Brooklyn, will preach on SUNDAY EVENING. Services at 10½, 3½ and 7½ o'clock. Free seats.

THE 42D ANNIVERSARY OF SUNDAY School No. 19 of the Rutgers-st. Presbyterian Church will take place on SUNDAY AFTERNOON, at the corner of Madison-av. and 29th-st., at 3½ o'clock. Address by the Pastor, Rev. Dr. KRESS. Singing by the children.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.—REV. DR. LEEDS, OF Philadelphia, will preach the third of a series of sermons on the subject of Sunday Schools, at the Church of the Incarnation, Madison-av., corner of 28th-st., on SUNDAY EVENING NEXT, 13th inst., at 7½ o'clock.

THE SANCTIFIED WILL MEET AT NO. 327 Bowery on SUNDAY, at 10 A. M. Persons sincerely desiring to know the way of faith through Jesus Christ more perfectly, are affectionately invited. Haggai, chap. 1.

FOURTEENTH-ST. CHURCH.—REV. PROF. SEARS, of Amherst College, will preach in the 14th-st. Presbyterian Church, corner of 2d-av., (late Dr. ASA D. SMITH'S,) on SUNDAY and every Sabbath in December, services commencing at 10½ A. M. and 7½ P. M.

CITY TRACT SOCIETY.—THE ANNUAL Sermon for the City Tract Society will be preached by Rev. J. T. DURYEA, in the Reformed Dutch Church, 29th-st. and 5th-av., on SABBATH EVENING, 13th inst. Services at 7½ o'clock.

THE FUTURE OF THE NEGRO.—REV. M. J. SCHERER, of Syracuse, will preach at the Broadway Tabernacle Church, on SABBATH EVENING, Dec. 13, upon the *Destiny of the African Race and the Relations of the Country toward Them.* Service at 7½ o'clock.

REV. SIDNEY A. COREY WILL PREACH in the Murray Hill Baptist Church, corner of Lexington-av. and 37th-st., on SUNDAY, D

THE CITY GOVERNMENT.

Continued from Third Page.

resolution that the sidewalks in Twenty-seventh-street, between First and Second avenues, be flagged and re-flagged where not already properly done; also, to reset curb and gutter-stones where the same may be necessary, under the direction of the Street Commissioner, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was carried.

And the paper was laid over.

REPORTS.

Report of Committee on Roads, with resolution that Forty-ninth-street, from the Sixth-avenue to Broadway, be paved with Belgian pavement, one-half the expense thereof to be paid by the property owners benefited thereby, and the other half by the City, under the direction of the Croton Aqueduct Department, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was laid over.

Report of Committee on Roads, with resolution, that the sidewalks of Forty-sixth-street, between Sixth and Eighth avenues, be flagged and reflagged where necessary, under the direction of the Street Commissioner, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was laid over.

Report of Committee on Streets, with resolution, that Eighteenth-street, between the Sixth-avenue and North River, be paved with Belgian pavement, the property-owners to pay one-half the expense and the City the remaining half, the work to be done under the direction of the Croton Aqueduct Department, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was laid over.

Report of Committee on Fire Department, in favor of concurring with Board of Aldermen in adopting resolution that the Street Commissioner be directed to advertise for proposals for building a carriage for Hose Company number Sixty-one.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Hayes, Healy, Riley, Webster, Gross, Brady, Repper, Houghtalin, Haviland, Gaw, McGrath, Murray, O'Brien, Brice, Russell, Fitzgerald, Joyce—17.

Report of Committee on Roads, with resolution, that the sidewalks of Forty-sixth-street, between Sixth and Eighth avenues, be flagged and reflagged where necessary, under the direction of the Street Commissioner, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was laid over.

Report of Committee on Roads, with resolution, that Seventy-ninth-street, from Eighth to Tenth avenue, be regulated, graded, the curb and gutter stones set, and the sidewalks flagged a space four feet wide through the centre thereof, under the direction of the Street Commissioner, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was laid over.

Report of Committee on Roads, with resolution, that the sidewalks of Broadway, between Forty-first and Forty-second streets, be flagged and reflagged where necessary, under the direction of the Street Commissioner, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was laid over.

PAPERS FROM BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

Bill of E. W. Henry, for fitting up election polls, amounting to the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars.

By Board of Aldermen, referred to Comptroller, with power.

Which was concurred in.

Bill of Stephen O'Hara, for fitting up Thirteenth Election District, Eighteenth Ward.

By Board of Aldermen, referred to Comptroller, with power.

Which was concurred in.

Bill of J. R. Earl, for fitting up four districts in the Eleventh Ward, amounting to forty dollars.

By Board of Aldermen referred to Comptroller with power.

Which was concurred in.

Bill of David Moran, for fitting up Eleventh District of the Eighteenth Ward, ten dollars.

By Board of Aldermen, referred to Comptroller, with power.

Which was concurred in.

Preamble, reciting the fact of the death of Colonel Timothy O'Meara, Ninetieth regiment, Illinois Volunteers, Irish Legion, at Chattanooga, with resolutions, first, that in commemoration of the high and patriotic actions displayed on all occasions by the late Colonel Timothy O'Meara, of the Ninetieth regiment, Illinois Volunteers, Irish Legion, formerly Captain of the Tammany regiment Forty-second regiment, New-York Volunteers, that the sympathies and condolence of this Common Council are eminently due, and are hereby tendered to the bereaved relations and friends of the deceased; second, that the use of the Governor's Room be given to the family of the deceased for the reception of his remains preparatory to interment. third, that the members of the Common Council will attend the funeral, under the direction of the Committee on National Affairs; and fourth, that a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions be suitably engrossed and presented to the family of the deceased.

Which was laid over.

Report of Committee on Streets, with resolution, that Eighteenth-street, between the Sixth-avenue and North River, be paved with Belgian pavement, the property-owners to pay one-half the expense and the City the remaining half, the work to be done under the direction of the Croton Aqueduct Department, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was referred to the Committee on Belgian Pavement.

Report of Committee on Public Health with resolution that the low and sunken lots on the south side of Manhattan-street, both east and west of the Tenth-avenue, be filled in with good and wholesome earth, under the direction of the Street Commissioner, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was referred to the Committee on Public Health.

Report of Committee on Fire Department, with resolution that the Comptroller be directed to advertise for a lot of ground to be within the following boundaries, viz. North side of Fortieth-street, and south side of Forty-fourth-street, between Seventh and Ninth avenues, for the use of Hose Company number Thirty-four.

Which was referred to the Committee on Fire Department.

Report of Committee on Roads with resolution that Eleventh avenue, from Fifty-third to Fifty-ninth street, be curbed, guttered and sidewalks of the same be flagged a space eight feet wide through the centre thereof, under the direction of the Street Commissioner, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was referred to Committee on Streets.

Report of Committee on Roads, with resolution that the sidewalks on both sides of Broadway, between Fifty-fourth and Fifty-ninth streets be flagged and reflagged where necessary, under the direction of the Street Commissioner, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was laid over.

Report of Committee on Roads, with resolution that Forty-seventh-street, from One Hundred and Sixteenth to One Hundred and Twenty-fourth-street, be regulated, graded, curbed, guttered, and the sidewalks flagged, under the direction of the Street Commissioner, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was referred to the Committee on Roads.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Report of Committee on Assessments, in favor of concurring with Board of Aldermen in adopting resolution that the Comptroller be directed to draw his warrant in favor of William Gray, President of the Board of Trustees of the Protestant Methodist Church, in Attorney-street, for the sum of one hundred and twenty-three dollars and fifty cents, to enable him to pay an assessment against said church property for sewer in Attorney-street, and charge the same to account of "Donations."

Lost for want of the required number of votes, as follows:

Affirmative—Councilmen Hayes, Healy, Riley, Webster, Gross, Brady, Repper, Houghtalin, Haviland, Gaw, McGrath, Murray, O'Brien, Brice, Russell, Fitzgerald, Joyce—17.

Subsequently reconsidered and laid over.

Communication of Board of Aldermen, that the Street Commissioner be directed to advertise for proposals for building a house for Hose Company number Eighteen, on the property purchased by the Comptroller at eight and one-half Stone-street.

Which was concurred in by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Hayes, Healy, Riley, Webster, Gross, Brady, Repper, Houghtalin, Haviland, Gaw, McGrath, Murray, O'Brien, Brice, Russell, Fitzgerald, Joyce—17.

Negative—Councilman Hayes—1.

Report of Committee on Belgian Pavement, in favor of adopting resolution, that Seventy-ninth-street, from Fifth-avenue to East River, be paved with Belgian or trap-block pavement, the same as was used in 1861, under the direction of the Croton Aqueduct Department, one-half of the expense to be paid by the City, and the remaining half by the property owners.

Councilman Hayes moved to amend by striking from the resolution the words "the same as was used in 1861," and also all after the word "Department."

Which was carried.

The resolution was then adopted by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Hayes, Healy, Riley, Webster, Gross, Brady, Repper, Houghtalin, Haviland, Gaw, McGrath, Murray, O'Brien, Brice, Russell, Fitzgerald, Joyce—17.

Report of Committee on Repairs and Supplies in favor of concurring with Board of Aldermen in adopting resolution that the Street Commissioner be and he is hereby authorized and directed to advertise for proposals to rebuild the house of Engine Company number Forty-three, said house to be twenty-five feet front and three stories high, and to be twenty feet deeper than the present house.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Hayes, Healy, Riley, Webster, Gross, Brady, Repper, Houghtalin, Haviland, Gaw, McGrath, Murray, O'Brien, Brice, Russell, Fitzgerald, Joyce—17.

Report of Committee on Roads, in favor of concurring with Board of Aldermen in adopting resolution that the sidewalks of Broadway, from Fifty-fourth-street to Fifty-ninth-street, be flagged and reflagged, so as to make the same eight feet in width, under the direction of the Street Commissioner, and the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Hayes, Healy, Riley, Webster, Gross, Brady, Repper, Houghtalin, Haviland, Gaw, McGrath, Murray, O'Brien, Brice, Russell, Fitzgerald, Joyce—17.

Resolution of the Board of Alderman, that a sewer with the necessary receiving basin and culverts, be built on Monroe-street, from Market to Pike, under the direction of the Croton Board, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was concurred in by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Hayes, Healy, Riley, Webster, Gross, Brady, Repper, Houghtalin, Haviland, Gaw, McGrath, Murray, O'Brien, Brice, Russell, Fitzgerald, Joyce—17.

Report of Committee on Streets of Board of Aldermen, with resolution, that Westry-street, from Canal to Westst reet, be paved with Belgian pavement, the property owners to pay one-half of the expense and the City the remaining half, under the direction of the Croton Aqueduct Department, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was concurred in by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Hayes, Healy, Riley, Webster, Gross, Brady, Repper, Houghtalin, Haviland, Gaw, McGrath, Murray, O'Brien, Brice, Russell, Fitzgerald, Joyce—17.

Resolution that Houston-street, between the Bowery and Avenue D, be paved with Belgian pavement, one-half at the expense of the City and one-half at the expense of the property owners, the same to be done under the direction of the Croton Aqueduct Department, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was carried

The resolution was then adopted by the following vote.

Affirmative—Councilmen Hayes, Healy, Riley, Webster, Gross, Brady, Repper, Houghtalin, Haviland, Gaw, McGrath, Murray, O'Brien, Brice, Russell, Fitzgerald, Joyce—17.

Report of Committee on Sewers of Board of Aldermen, with resolution that a sewer with the necessary receiving-basins and culverts be built in One Hundred and Twenty-third-street, between Third-avenue and Harlem River, under the direction of the Croton Aqueduct Board, and the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

By Board of Councilmen, December ten, the following was substituted for the above resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That a sewer, with the necessary receiving basins and culverts, be built in Third-avenue, from One Hundred and Eighteenth to One Hundred and Twenty-ninth-street, and also one in One Hundred and Twenty-third-street, from Second to Third-avenue, to connect with the sewer thus proposed to be built in Third-avenue, the said work to be done under the direction and supervision of the Croton Aqueduct Department, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

The substituted resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Hayes, Healy, Riley, Webster, Gross, Brady, Repper, Houghtalin, Haviland, Gaw, McGrath, Murray, O'Brien, Brice, Russell, Fitzgerald, Joyce—17.

Report of Committee on Fire Department, in favor of concurring with Board of Aldermen in adopting resolution that the Street Commissioner be directed to advertise for proposals for building a carriage for Hose Company number Sixty-one.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Hayes, Healy, Riley, Webster, Gross, Brady, Repper, Houghtalin, Haviland, Gaw, McGrath, Murray, O'Brien, Brice, Russell, Fitzgerald, Joyce—17.

Report of Committee on Roads in favor of concurring with Board of Aldermen in adopting resolution that Seventy-second-street, from the Third to the Fourth-avenue, be graded, and curb and gutter stones set, under the direction of the Street Commissioner, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Hayes, Healy, Webster, Gross, Brady, Repper, Houghtalin, Haviland, Gaw, McGrath, Murray, O'Brien, Brice, Russell, Fitzgerald, Joyce—16.

Report of Committee on Roads in favor of concurring with Board of Aldermen in adopting resolution, that a crosswalk be laid at the west side of Eighth-avenue and Fifty-sixth-street, under the direction of the Croton Board, and that the accompanying ordinance therefor be adopted.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Hayes, Healy, Webster, Gross, Brady, Repper, Houghtalin, Haviland, Gaw, McGrath, Murray, O'Brien, Brice, Russell, Fitzgerald, Joyce—16.

MOTIONS.

Councilman Brice moved that when the Board adjourn, it do so to meet to-morrow, (Saturday,) twelfth instant, at twelve o'clock M.

Councilman Repper moved to strike out twelve and insert four.

Which was lost.

And the motion of Councilman Brice was lost.

Councilman Gross moved that when the Board adjourn, it do so to meet on Saturday, at two P. M.

Which was carried.

Subsequently Councilman Brice moved that such vote be reconsidered.

Which was carried.

He then moved to strike out two and insert twelve.

Which was carried.

And the motion as amended was adopted.

Councilman Joyce moved that the Board do now adjourn.

Which was carried

Whereupon the President declared that the Board stood adjourned until Saturday, twelfth instant, at twelve o'clock M

JAMES M. SWEENY, Clerk.

MONETARY AFFAIRS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange....Dec. 12, 1863.

$1,000	U S. 6s.'81 Cp	109⅝	400	Hudson R. R.	122⅜
9,000	U. S. 6s. 5-20s. Co	100⅝	100	do	122⅝
1,000	U. S. 6s. 1-yr C. N	98⅛	200	do	122⅝
18,000	do	98	50	do	s10 122⅝
2,000	Virginia State 6s.	54	200	do	b10. 122⅝
15,000	Mo. St. 6s	66	250	do	122⅝
5,000	Ohio&Miss. R. C.	35	500	Harlem R.	90
1,000	Er. 3d M. Bs.	112	200	do	89½
1,000	Hud. R. 2d S. F.	118	100	do	89
1,000	Har. R. 2d M.	104⅜	200	do	s10 89
1,000	Mich. So. 2d M.	104⅜	100	do	89⅛
10,000	Mich. So.S.F.B.	109	500	Reading R	b10. 119¾
1,000	Ill. Cen. R. B.	119	100	do	s30 119
1,000	M. C. 8s Co. 1stM.		100	do	119
	Sk. Fd.R.	122	200	Ill. Cen. R. S.	117⅞
5,000	C.&N.W.2dM.	75	100	do	b30. 118
1,000	Tol. & W. 1st M.	100	100	Mich. Cen. R.	s30 127⅜
10,000	P.,F.W.&C.1st.	108¾	150	do	127⅜
5,000	Miss & Mo. L. G.	60	150	do	s30 127
10	Bank of N. Am.	109	50	do	127⅜
50,000	Amer. Gold	150⅛	100	do	b10 127⅜
1,000	do	150⅜	150	do	b10. 127⅜
100	Canton Co.	32	200	M. S. & N. I. R.	78
50	Cumb. Coal Prf	31	100	do	b30 78⅛
150	do	31⅜	100	do	s30 78
150	do	s30 31⅜	500	Cleve. & Pitts	106⅛
100	do	31⅜	300	do	s10. 106⅜
100	do	s10 31⅜	200	do	s15 106⅜
100	do	s30 31⅜	200	do	s30. 106⅜
200	do	31⅜	700	do	106⅜
100	do	s10 31⅜	200	do	b10 106⅜
100	do	31⅜	150	Gal. & Chi. R	s10 108
500	do	s10 31⅜	200	do	108⅛
55	Del. & H. Ca. Co.	170	500	do	108⅜
450	Quick. M. Co.	6⅜	150	do	108⅜
87	Cen. Am Trad.	34	100	do	s10. 108⅜
500	Am. Coal Co.	94	200	Clev. & Tol. R	114
200	Bucks Co.L.Co	1⅜	200	do	b15. 114⅜
850	Mar. Min. Co.	37⅜	850	Chic. & R. I. R.	103⅜
100	do	37	100	do	b10. 104⅛
50	Wyom. Val.Coal Co.	87	100	do	b30. 104⅜
50	Pacific Mail.	216	4.0	do	b30. 104⅜
800	N. Y. Cen. R.	132⅛	100	Mil.&P.DuC.R	54⅜
100	do	s15 132⅜	100	do	b30 54⅜
200	do	s10 132⅜	25	Mil. & P. Du C. Pr	87
200	do	at 60 132⅜	200	Tol. & Wab. R	51⅜
100	do	180 132⅜	100	do	51
100	do	s20 132	200	do	51⅜
100	do	s30 132⅜	50	P., Ft. W. & C.	s30 81
800	do	s30 132	100	do	b30 82
400	do	132⅜	400	do	81⅜
400	Erie R	105⅜	200	do	s30 81⅜
100	do	b30 105⅜	150	A. & T. R. R.	86
600	do	s30 105⅜	300	Chic. & N. W.	46
400	do	105⅜	200	do	46⅛
100	do	b10. 105⅜	200	do	46⅜
300	do	b30 106	50	do	s30 46
65	Chi. R. & Q. R	116			

SECOND BOARD.

$1,000	U. S. 6s. 1-yr c.	102⅛	150	Mich. Cen. R.	126⅜
3,000	Treas. 7 3-10 p. c. Notes Oct. & Ap	106⅛	100	Ill. Cen. R. Sc.	117⅜
3,000	Mo. State 6s	66⅜	100	do	b30. 117⅜
26,000	Amer. Gold	150	15	Chic. & N. W.	45
100	Cum. Coal Pref	31⅜	50	do	44⅜
400	do	31⅞	100	Chic. & Alt. Pr	92
50	do	31⅞	1200	Cl. & Pitts. R.	106⅜
100	Quicks. M. Co.	6⅜	400	do	b10. 106⅜
200	Am. Coal Co	94⅜	400	do	106⅜
200	Canton Co	31⅜	100	do	s10. 106⅜
100	Pacific M. S. Co.	b30. 218	400	do	106⅜
100	New-York Cen.	s60. 131⅜	400	do	106⅜
150	do	131⅜	100	Gal. & Chic. R	107⅛
100	do	s30 131⅜	100	do	107⅜
200	do	b3. 107⅜	400	do	107⅜
1000	Hud. R. 2d S. F.	s30 88	800	do	b3 104⅜
100	do	88⅜	100	do	s3. 104⅜
400	Reading R	114⅜	700	do	104⅜
200	do	118⅜	300	P., Ft. W. & C.	81⅜
100	M. S. & N. I. R.	77⅜	200	Can'on Co.	32⅜
1000	do	s30 78	200	Cumb Coal	32⅜
100	Ill Central	116⅛	50	Tradesmen's Bank	110
100	do	116⅜	15	Irving Bank	100

PUBLIC BOARD—1 P. M.

$10,000	Am. Gold	150⅛	100	Ill. Cen. R.	116⅜
200	N. Y. Cen. R.	132	100	do	116⅜
100	do	s60 131⅞	100	do	116⅜
100	do	s3. 131⅞	300	Gal. & Chi. R.	107⅜
100	do	b3 132	100	do	107⅜
100	Erie Railway	c 105⅜	400	do	107⅜
500	do	s3 105⅞	100	do	106⅞
100	do	b3. 105⅞	400	Chic. & R. I. R.	103⅜
300	do	s3 105⅞	300	do	103⅜
600	do	105⅞	100	do	s3 103⅜
200	Harlem R.	87⅜	100	P., Ft. W. & Ch.	81
100	do	s3 87⅜	200	do	81⅛
200	do	89⅜	200	do	b10 81
300	Reading R	118⅜	500	do	b10 81
100	do	s3 118⅜	800	do	80⅜
200	M. S. & N. I.	77⅜	200	do	80⅜
200	do	s3 77⅜	100	Tol. & Wab. R.	60
100	Cleve. & P. R.	c. 101⅜	250	do	b10 61
400	do	104⅜	400	Cum Coal	s3 31¾
100	do	s3. 104⅜	100	do	31⅞
100	do	104⅜			

PUBLIC BOARD—3½ P. M.

$10,000	Am. Gold	15 ⅜	300	Clev. & Pitts	104⅜
500	N. Y. Cen. R.	s3 131⅜	300	do	s3. 104⅜
100	do	131⅜	800	do	106
200	do	131⅜	100	do	b3. 105
100	do	131⅜	700	do	105⅜
100	do	s3. 131⅜	100	do	s3 1 05⅜
100	do	b30. 131⅜	100	Gal. & Chi. R.	107⅜
500	Erie Railroad	s3 105⅜	200	do	s3 107⅜
600	do	b3. 105⅞	200	Clev. & Tol. R.	112⅜
200	do	105⅜	400	Chic. & R. I.	104⅜
2200	do	b10. 105⅜	100	do	s3. 104⅜
2 0	do	s3. 105⅞	300	do	104⅜
200	do	b3. 105⅜	400	do	104⅜
1000	Harlem R.	s30 88	800	do	b3 104⅜
100	do	88⅜	100	do	s3. 104⅜
400	Reading R	118⅜	700	do	104⅜
200	do	118⅜	300	P., Ft. W. & C.	81⅜
100	M. S. & N. I. R.	77⅜	200	Can'on Co.	32⅜
1000	do	s30 78	200	Cumb Coal	32⅜
100	Ill Central	116⅛	50	Tradesmen's Bank	110
100	do	116⅜	15	Irving Bank	100

SATURDAY, Dec. 12—P. M.

The price of Gold varied through the day about 1 ℅ cent. from the last price of yesterday closing at 4 o'clock at 150⅛ ℅ cent. The shipments to Europe by this day's steamers were $1,198,000, making for the whole week $3,409,455. The market for stocks was generally dull, and prices on the Railways ¼@1 ℅ cent. lower than on Friday, on a very small volume of speculation at the regular Board. On the Street there were some considerable transactions in Erie from 105⅞ down to 105, and up again to 105¼ ℅ cent. New-York Central, Harlem, and several of the Western Roads were weak. Hudson, Illinois Central and Cleveland and Pittsburgh comparatively steady at yesterday's figures. The miscellaneous Shares also steady, and Government Securities firm. The receipts at the Treasury for the Popular Loan went up to $1,183,250 for the day, of which $593,000 was on subscriptions direct at the office. The market for money easy to the Brokers at 7 ℅ cent.

At 4 o'clock the following prices were made in comparison with Friday night. The speculation on the Street presents few points of interest. The general dullness was partially varied about 1 o'clock to-day by a telegraphic rumor of Peace Commissioners from the South, but the story was soon ascertained to be a hoax, although its author is said to have taken the pains to duplicate his dispatch to different Brokers. The momentary effect was to put down Gold ½, and ⅜ on Erie:

	Fri.	Sat.		Fri.	Sat.
Gold Coin	150⅝	150⅛	Mich. Central	127⅜	126⅜
U.S. 6s, 1881	109¼	109⅜	Mich. Southern	79	77⅞
N. Y. Central	132⅝	131⅜	Mich. Guarant'd	134	134
Erie	105⅞	105⅜	Illinois Cen	117⅝	117
Erie Preferred	102	101⅝	Pittsburgh	105⅜	104⅞
Hudson	122⅜	122	Fort Wayne	82⅜	81⅜
Pacific Mail	215	216	Rock Island	104⅜	104⅝
Harlem	91	88⅜	Galena	108⅜	107⅛
Canton	33	31⅜	Reading	119⅜	118⅝
Treas. Cer., new	98⅜	98⅛	Quicksilver	63⅜	63⅜
Toledo	114	112⅜	Chicago and A	84	83
Northwest	46	44⅜	Mariposa	37	37

The following bids were made to-day for the City Bank Shares:

New-York	120	Hanover	100
Manhattan	140	Irving	100
Mechanics'	117	Metropolitan	115
America	125	People's	102
Merchants' Exch.	98	Corn Exchange	107
Seventh Ward	135	Continental	101
State of New-York	102	New-York County	130
Commerce	106	Imp. & Traders'	109
American Exchange	107	Park	135
Bank of N. America	109	New-York Exchange	120

And the following for the Railway Mortgages:

N. Y. Cen. 6s	105	Al. & T. H. 2d pref.	80¼
N.Y. Cen. 6s. Real Est.	101	Al. & T. H 2ds. Inc.	83⅜
N. Y. Cen. 6s. Sub.	101	Chi. & N. W. S. F.	103
N. Y. Cen. 7s '84	103¾	Chi. & N. W. Ext.	94
N. Y. Cen. 7s, '76	116	Chi. & N.W. Int. Bs.	92⅜
N. Y. Cen. Con. 7s, '76..181		Chi. & N. W. firsts	92
Erie thirds. '83	111	Chi. & N. W 2ds	75
Erie fourths. '80	107	Tol. & Wab. 1sts	100
Erie fifths. '88	104	Tol. & Wab. seconds	88
Buff., N.Y.&E. 1sts. '77.	104⅜	Gal. & Chi. 2ds	100
Hud. R. firsts. '60	114	Chi. & R. I. firsts	106
Hudson R. 2d S. F. '85..	118	Clev. & Tol. S. F.	112
Hud. R. Bonds	103½	New J. C. firsts	100
Har. seconds, '64	100⅜	Pitts., Ft. W. & C. 1sts.	108¾
Har. thirds, '68	100	Pitts. Ft. W. & C. 2ds.	103⅜
Mich. Cen. '69 & '72	120	Pitts., Ft. W. & C. 3ds	86
Mich. C. R. 1sts. '82	121	Clev. & Pitts. 4ths	85
Chi. R. & Q. seconds	104⅜	Miss. & Mo. L. G	60
N. Ind. Goshen L., '68.	106	Chi. & Alton, firsts	103
Michigan S. & N. I. S. F.	109	Chic. & Alton Income	90
Illinois Cen. '75	119		

The movements in Breadstuffs in Milwaukee, week ending with Dec. 9, Messrs. JONES & Co. notice thus:

"*Flour*—The market during the week has been quiet, and prices are 10c.@15c. lower. Freight to New-York by all rail $2 20 ℔ bbl. Flour can be stored here till Spring at 8c.@10c. ℔ bbl. Receipts for the week 11,438 bbls., against 11,539 bbls. same time last year. Shipments since opening navigation 563,619 bbls. *Wheat*—The market during the week has not been very active, owing largely to the extreme tightness of the Money market, which has restricted the negotiation of time bills, and thus checked speculation. The stock here is estimated at about 900,000 bushels against about 1,300,000 bushels at this time last year. The weather has been very pleasant, and receipts have in consequence been liberal: averaging for week 38,000 bushels ℔ day against an average of 34,000 bushels for corresponding days last year. We quote No. 1 Milwaukee Spring Wheat (the article which is sold and quoted in New-York as 'Amber Green Bay' and 'Amber Iowa') at $1 09@$1 09⅜ in store, subject to 4c. ℔ bushel storage to 1st May next. No. 2 do. at $1 01@$1 01⅜. Shipments for the week 5,800 bushels; since opening navigation, 12,821,653 bushels; same date last year, 15,004,886 bushels."

The day's receipts at of the office of the Assistant Treasurer of the United States were: Total receipts, $1,822,960 13, including for Customs, $243,000: payments, $1,584,974 81: balance, $20,192,015 74.

Movements of European Steamers.

FROM AMERICA.

Columbia	Dec. 15	New-York	Liverpool.
Scotia	Dec. 16	New-York	Liverpool,
Adriatic	Dec. 17	New-York	Liverpool,
Virginia	Dec. 18	New-York	Liverpool.
Etna	Dec. 19	New-York	Liverpool
Bremen	Dec. 19	New-York	Southampton.
Canada	Dec. 23	New-York	Liverpool.
Hecla	Dec. 23	New-York	Liverpool.
Hammonia	Dec. 26	New-York	Southampton.
Germania	Jan. 9	New-York	Southampton.
Bavaria	Jan. 23	New-York	Southampton.

FROM EUROPE.

Damascus	Nov. 26	Liverpool	Portland.
Canada	Nov. 28	Liverpool	Boston.
City of York	Nov. 24	Liverpool	New-York.
Hecla	Dec. 1	Liverpool	New-York.
Hammonia	Dec. 1	Southampton	New-York.
City of Washington	Dec. 2	Liverpool	New-York.
Hibernia	Dec. 4	Liverpool	Boston.
Australasian	Dec. 5	Liverpool	New-York.
Edinburgh	Dec. 9	Liverpool	New-York.
Asia	Dec. 12	Liverpool	Boston.
Germania	Dec. 15	Southampton	New York.
Adriatic	Dec. 18	Liverpool	New-York.
China	Dec. 19	Liverpool	New-York.
Africa	Dec. 26	Liverpool	Boston.
Bavaria	Dec. 29	Southampton	New-York.
Amalia	Jan. 1	Liverpool	Boston.

For New-Orleans, Havana, &c.

Yazoo	Dec. 16	New-York	New-Orleans.
Corsica	Jan. 4	New-York	Nassau

For California.

	Dec. 14	New-York	Aspinwalh
Illinois	Dec. 23	New-York	Nicaragua.

For the South Pacific, &c.

The mails by the —— will close on Monday at 10 30 A. M.

Departure of Domestic Mails.

North Mails close at ..... 5 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.
South Mails close at ..... 5 A. M. 4:30 and 10 P. M.
Western Mails (and Erie Railroad) 5 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.
Eastern Mails at ..... 5 A. M., 1:30 and 6:30 P. M.
Mails for California, Oregon, Washington and the Sandwich Islands close daily at the New-York Post-office at 5½ A. M. and 3½ P. M.
On Sunday all Mails close at 1:30 P. M.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

FEMALES.

AS HOUSEKEEPER.—WANTED, A SITUATION as housekeeper by a highly respectable American lady, about 35 years of age: is perfectly familiar with the details of household management, and competent to take entire charge; the best of references given and required. Address "SOLDIER'S WIDOW," Box No. 125 *Times* Office.

MALES.

AS ASSISTANT BOOK-KEEPER.—WANTED by a young man the position of assistant book-keeper, or any respectable situation where a fair remuneration would be paid. Address R., Box No. 142 *Times* Office.

IN STOCK BROKER'S OFFICE.—WANTED, a situation by a young man of experience in the business. Good references. Address C., Box No. 5,101 Post-office.

STATIONERY.

THE BEST AND CHEAPEST INK.—AMERICAN UNION INK, jet black INK, flows freely, and does not corrode. Sold at No. 5 Ludlow-st., and at the stationers generally. JESSE G. KEYS.

MACHINE-MADE PAPER BAGS, BERLIN & JONES, No. 134 William-st.

FLOUR BAGS—MANUFACTURED BY BERLIN & JONES, No. 134 William-st.

SEED BAGS—MANUFACTURED BY BERLIN & JONES, No. 134 William-st.

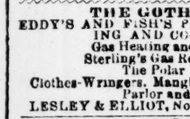
GROCERS' BAGS—MANUFACTURED BY BERLIN & JONES, No. 134 William-st.

DRUGGISTS' BAGS—MANUFACTURED BY BERLIN & JONES, No. 134 William-st.

ENVELOPES—MANUFACTURED BY BERLIN & JONES, No. 134 William-st.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE GOTHIC FURNACE
EDDY'S AND FISH'S PATENT KEROSENE HEATING AND COOKING STOVES,
Gas Heating and Cooking Stoves.
Sterling's Gas Regulator and Saver.
The Polar Refrigerator.
Clothes-Wringers, Mangles and Washing-machines.
Parlor and Ice Skates,
LESLEY & ELLIOT, No. 494 Broadway, New-York.



WEDDING CARDS.
French Note Papers, Seals and Presses, Silver Plates, etc., at J. Everdell's, 302 Broadway, cor. Duane St. For Specimens by mail, send 25 cents.

LADIES' FAIR,

For the benefit of the Church of St George the Martyr, commencing MONDAY EVENING, Dec. 14, will remain open Day and Evening for one week, at No. 1,115 Broadway, opposite the Worth Monument. Admission 10 cts.

LIQUOR DEALERS.—A MEETING OF THE Liquor Dealers of New-York will be held at the City Assembly Rooms, No. 446 Broadway, on FRIDAY EVENING, Dec. 18, to take into consideration the necessity of an advance in the prices of retailing liquors The whole Trade are invited to attend Several eminent speakers will address the meeting By order,

GEO. MOORE, Chairman.

J. LESLIE ADAIR, Secretary.

SHIPPERS OF FREIGHT BY STEAMER ISAAC NEWTON, Dec 5, are requested to send to the Office of the People's Line copies of their original invoices A copy of the shipping receipt attached to invoice is particularly requested. P. C. SMITH, Agent.

"ATLANTIC AND GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY."—Coupons on the Bonds of this Company will be paid on presentation by McANDREW & WANN, No. 12 Pine-st.

DRY GOODS.

FALL AND WINTER CLOTHING.

ABBATT & RATHBUN

Solicit the attention of the public to their extensive Stock of CLOTHING for Winter wear, for

MEN, YOUTH AND BOYS.

OVERCOATS.

BLACK, BLUE AND DRAB MIXED CHINCHILLAS.
STEEL AND DRAB MIXED CASS AND MELTONS.
BROWN AND DRAB MIXED WHITNEY AND GARRYOWENS.
STEEL MIXED AND BLUE KERSEY MILITARY CAPE.
(New Style.)
PLAIN BLACK AND BLUE DITTO.
SCOTCH AND FANCY CASS, ENGLISH BOATING, SACK COATS, VESTS AND PANTS.
METROPOLITAN AND FANCY CASSIMERE SUITS.
MAZARINE BLUE, STEEL-MI

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR CAVALRY HORSES.

CAVALRY BUREAU,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., NOV. 25, 1863.

Proposals are solicited, and will be received at this office, for the furnishing of cavalry horses, to be delivered at Washington, D. C., St. Louis, Mo., and Chicago, Ill.

The horses to comply with the following specifications, viz.: to be from fifteen (15) to sixteen (16) hands high, from five (5) to nine (9) years old, well broken to the saddle, compactly built, in good flesh, and free from all defects.

The ability of the bidder to fulfill his agreement must be guaranteed by two reason-ible persons, whose signatures must be appended to the guarantee. No proposals will be entertained unless the oath of allegiance of the person or persons bidding shall be on file in this office.

The responsibility of the guarantors must be shown by the official certificate of the Clerk of the nearest District Court, or of the United States District-Attorney.

Proposals must be addressed to Lieut.-Col. C. G. SAWTELLE, Chief Quartermaster, Cavalry Bureau, and be indorsed on the envelope "Proposals for Cavalry Horses."

Cavalry horses agreeing with the above specifications will be purchased in open market at fair prices, at the following places, viz.: New-York City, Albany, Buffalo and Rochester, N. Y.; Pittsburgh, Penn.; Columbus, Ohio; Boston, Mass.; Augusta, Me., and Madison, Wis.

C. G. SAWTELLE,
Lieut.-Col. and Chief Quartermaster, Cavalry Bureau.

PROPOSALS FOR HAY, STRAW AND GRAIN.

ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE, FORAGE DEPARTMENT, Seventh-st. Wharf,
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 16, 1863.

Written proposals are invited for furnishing HAY, STRAW, OATS and CORN for the use of this depot, to be delivered at the railroad depot, or at any of the Government wharves in this city.

The proposals to be addressed to the undersigned, and they should state the quantity and grade of each article offered, also the price and the date of delivery.

Proposals will be received for five thousand (5,000) bushels of Corn or Oats, and fifty (50) tons of Hay or Straw, and upward, unless it should be for the interest of the Government to contract for a less amount.

All grain to be put up in good sacks, of about two (2) bushels each, which are to be furnished at the cost of the contractor.

The Hay and Straw to be securely baled.

All Grain and Hay offered to be subject to a rigid inspection by the Government Inspector.

Contracts will be awarded from time to time to the lowest responsible bidders, as the interests of the Government may require, and no payments will be made when the whole amount contracted for shall have been delivered and accepted, in such funds as are provided by the United States for that purpose.

The bidder will be required to accompany his proposal with a guarantee, signed by two responsible persons, that in case his bid is accepted, he or they will, within two days thereafter, execute the contract, and furnish the same, with good and sufficient sureties in a sum equal to the amount of the contract, to deliver the forage proposed in conformity with the terms of this advertisement; and in case the said bidder should fail to enter into the contract, they to make good the difference between the offer of said bidder and the next lowest responsible bidder, or the person to whom the contract may be awarded.

The responsibility of the guarantors must be shown by the official certificate of a United States District-Attorney, Collector of Customs, or any other officer under the United States Government.

All bidders will be duly notified of the acceptance or rejection of their proposals.

Proposals must be addressed to Maj. Stewart Van Vliet, Q. M. U. S. A., New-York, and should be indorsed "Proposals for Forage."

STEWART VAN VLIET,
Maj. and Q. M. U. S. Army.

OFFICE COM. OF SUB. VOL. SERV.,
No. 2 BRIDGE-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 10, 1863.

SEALED PROPOSALS, TO BE INDORSED, "PROPOSALS FOR COOKED RATIONS," will be received by the undersigned, at this office, until 11 o'clock M. of MONDAY, the 28th inst., for supplying and delivering at such points as may be required, for one year from Jan. 1, 1864, or for such shorter period as may be directed by the Commissary-General of Subsistence, COOKED RATIONS to all troops in the service of the United States who may be in New-York City, or its immediate vicinity, as well as to those who may be en route, under military orders, for whom they may be required by the proper authority. The ration is to be served in three meals a day, and is to be fully equal in *quality* and equivalent in *amount* to the authorized ration of the United States army, which consists of the following articles and quantities for 100 complete rations, viz.:

75 pounds of Pork, or Bacon Sides, or Shoulders or Hams,
or 125 pounds of Salt or Fresh Beef.
137½ pounds of Flour or Soft Bread,
or 100 pounds of Hard Bread.
15 pounds of Beans or Peas.
10 pounds of Rice or Hominy.
8 pounds of Roasted and Ground Coffee.
or 10 pounds of Green Coffee,
or 2½ pounds of Tea
15 pounds of Sugar.
1 gallon of Vinegar.
1¼ pounds of Adamantine Candles.
4 pounds of Soap.
2½ pounds of Salt.
4 ounces of Black Pepper.
30 pounds of Potatoes.
1 quart of Molasses.

The bidder must state the price per ration for supplying, cooking and serving the same, *on a building furnished at public expense*, which price must include all other expenses, such as supplying table furniture, cooking apparatus, fuel, transportation of rations, &c.

The bidder must also state the price per ration for supplying, cooking and serving the same, *the contractor to furnish a suitable building*, which price must include all other expenses as above.

All bids must be accompanied by a guarantee, as follows:

We, the undersigned, hereby guarantee that in case the foregoing bid of ——— be accepted it shall be duly fulfilled according to its true purport and conditions; also, that a written contract shall be executed, with bonds in the sum of $10,000.

Names of Guarantors.

To this must be attached a certificate signed by the U. S. District Judge, or U. S. District Attorney, or Collector of the Port, in form as follows:

"I hereby certify that the above-named are known to me as men of property, and are good and sufficient guarantors."

All bidders must give their names in full, and also state their place of residence and of business.

Each bid must have a printed copy of this advertisement attached to it.

The Government reserves the right to reject any bid which seems unreasonable or disadvantageous to it.

No contract will be awarded to any person offering more than one bid, or naming more than one price, or who is in any way interested in more than one offer.

F. H. MOORE, Capt. C. S. V. S.

OFFICE OF THE STREET COMMISSIONER,
NEW-YORK, Nov. 28, 1863.

TO CONTRACTORS.—PROPOSALS, INCLOSED in a sealed envelope, indorsed with the title of the work, and with name of the bidder written thereon, will be received at this office until 11 o'clock A. M., Monday, Dec. 14, 1863:

For regulating, grading, curb, gutter and flagging Seventy-seventh-street, between Second and Fourth avenues.

For regulating, grading, curb, gutter and flagging Avenue A, between Eighty-fourth and Ninety-third streets.

For curb, gutter and flagging First-avenue, between Fifty-third and Sixty-first streets.

For flagging and reflagging Fifty-ninth-street, between Eighth and Tenth avenues.

For flagging and reflagging Thirty-third-street, between Eighth and Ninth avenues.

For dredging slip south side Pier No. 47 North River.

For new house for Hook and Ladder Company No. 8.

For new house for Engine Company No. 45.

For new house for Engine Company No. 23.

For new house for Engine Company No. 48.

Alterations and additions to house of Engine Company No. 19.

Repairs and alterations to house of Engine Company No. 22.

Blank forms of proposals, together with the specifications and agreements, can be obtained at this office.—Details and measurements can be obtained at the Street Department, New-York, Nov. 28, 1863.

CHARLES G. CORNELL,
Street Commissioner.

U. S. A. MEDICAL PURVEYOR'S OFFICE,
MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 1, 1863.

MANUFACTURERS, DEALERS AND IMporters are invited to send to this office price-lists of and tenders for any or all of the articles of medical and hospital supplies required for the use of the army. Copies of the Supply-table can be seen at the office of any Medical Purveyor. Further particulars made known on application to

MIRENELL STEVENS,
Medical Storekeeper, U. S. Army,
Medical Purveyor, Dept. Tenn.

PROPOSALS.

CHIEF QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON DEPOT, Nov. 17, 1863.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED at the office of Capt. C. H. Tompkins, A. Q. M., U. S. A., at the corner of 22d and G sts., in this city, until Monday, Dec. 21, 1863, at 12 o'clock M., for the sale of all the manure now on hand, or that may be produced at stables and corrals of this Depot within the next twelve months succeeding the date of the letting of the contract.

The manure will be awarded to the highest bidder or bidders, who will be required to take it away at his or their own expense. The quantity now on hand to be taken away within six months from the date of contract, and that which may accumulate within six months from the date at which it may be produced.

Sales must be made at so much per cubic yard.

Bids will be received for the quantity on hand, and the subsequent product at each stable and corral, separately, or for the whole together.

If a bid is made in the name of a firm, the names of all the parties must appear, or it will be considered as the individual proposal of the party signing it.

The full name and post-office address of the bidder must appear in the proposal.

Proposals must be addressed to Capt. C. H. Tompkins, A. Q. M., U. S. A., Washington, D. C., and should be plainly marked "Proposals for Manure."

Payment will be required to be made in Government funds, at the end of each month, for the manure removed during the month.

An oath of allegiance will be required from each successful bidder.

Good and sufficient bonds, in the sum of ($1,000 one thousand dollars, will be required of each successful bidder for the faithful performance of his contract.

The Quartermaster reserves the right to reject all bids that may be deemed to the interest of Government not to accept.

D. H. RUCKER,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster,
Depot Washington.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED by the School Officers of the Ninth Ward, at the office of the Clerk of the Board of Education, corner of Grand and Elm streets, until WEDNESDAY, the sixteenth day of December, inst., at 12 o'clock, noon, for the erection and completion of a new School-house, including steam-heating apparatus, to be built on the site now occupied by Ward School No. 11, in said Ward. Plans and Specifications for said School-house, including steam-heating apparatus, can be seen at the Office of the Superintendent of School-buildings, No. 94 Crosby-street. Proposals must state the estimate for each branch of the work separately, and be indorsed "Proposals for Mason Work," "Proposals for Carpenter Work," "Proposals for Painting," "Proposals for Heating." Proposals for the heating must be accompanied with accurate drawings and descriptions of the apparatus intended to be furnished, otherwise they will be rejected. Two responsible and approved sureties will be required from each successful bidder, and no proposal will be considered in which no sureties are named.

The School officers of the Ward reserve the right to reject any or all of the proposals offered, if deemed for the public interest to do so.

JACOB C. ROGERT,
WILLIAM H. GEDNEY,
GEORGE F. MERKLEE,
Committee on Buildings, Ninth Ward.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 1, 1863.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
BUREAU OF PROVISIONS AND CLOTHING, Dec. 11, 1863.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED at this bureau until 3 o'clock on the 21st December, instant, for one thousand barrels Navy Beef, and fifteen hundred barrels Navy Pork. The Beef, Pork and barrels to conform to the Navy standard, with the exception of iron hoops; the same to be delivered at the Brooklyn yard within ten days after being notified of the acceptance of the proposal, and there undergo the usual inspection of the yard.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

CITY INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 9, 1863.

ASHES AND GARBAGE—WINTER ARRANGEMENTS.—The undersigned would respectfully call the attention of our citizens to the necessity of abstaining from placing their ashes and garbage on the sidewalks until the ringing of the bell announcing the arrival of the ash carts. A strict compliance with this rule is rendered necessary to prevent the ashes from being thrown into the gutters by accident or otherwise, from which it may be difficult to remove it in consequence of frozen gutters or accumulations of snow. At the same time it will prevent those large accumulations of filth in the gutters and streets that have too long disgraced the City on the approach of Spring.

The ash carts will be daily in every street to promptly carry away the ashes ready to be removed. All complaints of neglect to comply with this requisition, on being reported to this Department, will receive immediate attention.

F. I. A. BOOLE, City Inspector.

CORPORATION NOTICE.—PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the owner or owners, occupant or occupants of all houses and lots, improved or unimproved lands affected thereby, that the following assessments have been completed and are lodged in the office of the Board of Assessors for examination by all persons interested, viz.:

For a sewer in Fifty-fourth street, between Eighth and Ninth avenues.

For a sewer in Fifty-ninth street, between Second and Third avenues.

For regulating and setting curb and gutter in West-street, from Houston-st. to Gansevoort-st., and in the intersecting streets to Clinton, Hammond to Gansevoort, from Washington to West-streets.

For setting curb and gutter and flagging in Ninety-third-street, between Third and Fourth avenues.

For flagging and reflagging in Forty-first-street, between Broadway and Eighth-avenue.

For building a bulk-head at the northwest corner of Broadway and Twenty-fifth-street.

For fencing vacant lots in Fourteenth-street, next the Church of the Immaculate Conception.

For fencing and planting trees at the southwest corner of Twenty-third-street and First-avenue.

For paving Forty-second-street with trap-block from Fifth to Sixth avenues, Ninth-avenue from Twenty-third to Thirty-fourth streets, and Forty-first-street from Third to Sixth avenues.

The limits embraced by such assessment include all the several houses and lots of ground, vacant lots, pieces and parcels of land, situated as follows:

All the lots on both sides of Fifty-ninth-street, between Eighth and Ninth avenues.

All the lots on both sides of Fifty-ninth street, between Second and Third avenues.

All the lots on both sides of West-street, from Perry to West Twelfth-street, and all the lots on both sides of the intervening streets between Perry and West Twelfth streets, from Washington to West-street.

All the lots on both sides of Forty-first-street, between Third and Fourth avenues.

All the lots on the north side of Forty-first-street, between Seventh and Eighth avenues, and the lot at the northeast corner of Forty-first-street and Seventh-avenue.

All the lots fronting on the northeast corner of Broadway and Twenty-fifth-street, to the distance of one hundred and sixty feet on Twenty-fifth-street, and ninety-five feet on Broadway, from the corner of Twenty-fifth-street.

All those lots known as Ward numbers 1,994 and 1,995 in the Eighteenth Ward; also Ward Map numbers 1,130, 1,131 and 1,134, at the southwest corner of First-avenue and Twenty-third-street.

All the lots on both sides of Forty-second-street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues, and all the lots on the east side of Sixth avenue to the distance of one hundred feet north and one hundred feet south of Forty-second-street.

All the lots on the south side of Ninth-avenue, and upon both sides of the intersecting streets to the extent of half the block either way from Ninth-avenue, and upon Twenty-third and Thirty-fourth streets.

All the lots to the extent of half the block north and south of Fifty-fourth-street, between Third and Sixth avenues.

All persons whose interest are affected by the above named assessments, and who are opposed to the same, or either of them, are requested to present their objections, in writing, to one of the undersigned, at their office, number thirty-two Chambers-street, basement New Court-house, within forty days from the date of this notice.

CHAS. McNEIL,
JACOB F. OAKLEY,
WM. A. DOOLEY,
Board of Assessors.

OFFICE BOARD OF ASSESSORS,
NEW COURT-HOUSE, Dec. 8, 1863.

THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL AFFAIRS will meet every day, until further notice, in the Chamber of the Board of Aldermen, at 1 o'clock P. M. Parties having business with the Committee are respectfully invited to attend.

Alderman TERENCE FARLEY,
Alderman PETER MITCHELL,
Alderman JOHN T. HENRY,
Alderman F. I. A. BOOLE,
Alderman JOHN D. OTTIWELL,
Councilman WM. JOYCE,
Councilman SAMUEL WEBSTER,
Councilman JOHN McCONNELL,
Councilman ALEX. BRANDON,
Councilman JOHN G. HAVILAND.

THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDings, of the Board of Aldermen, will meet every TUESDAY, in Room No. 8 City Hall, at 1 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of considering all papers referred to such Committee. All parties interested will please attend without further notice.

PETER MASTERSON,
JOHN FOX,
LEWIS R. RYERS,
Committee on Public Buildings.

THE COMMITTEE ON FIRE DEPARTMENT of the Board of Aldermen, will meet every SATURDAY, at two o'clock, in the City Library Room, City Hall.

JOHN McCOOL,
PETER MITCHELL,
LEWIS R. RYERS,
Committee on Fire Department.

THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH of the Board of Aldermen will meet in Room number twelve, City Hall, on TUESDAY of each week, at two o'clock P. M., until further notice. All persons interested in papers awaiting the action of the Committee are requested to attend.

TERENCE FARLEY,
JACOB M. LONG,
JOHN D. OTTIWELL,
Committee.

THE COMMITTEE ON POLICE OF THE Board of Aldermen will meet every WEDNESDAY, at 1 o'clock P. M., in Room No. 8, City Hall, for the purpose of investigating all papers referred to them. All persons interested are respectfully requested to appear before the Committee without further notice.

PETER MASTERSON,
GEO. A. JEREMIAH,
CHAS. H. HALL,
Committee on Police.

THE COMMITTEE ON ROADS OF THE Board of Aldermen will meet every FRIDAY, at two o'clock P. M., in Room number twelve, City Hall. All persons interested in matters pending the action of the Committee, are invited to attend.

TERENCE FARLEY,
JACOB M. LONG,
PETER MASTERSON,
Committee.

THE COMMITTEE ON SEWERS OF THE Board of Aldermen will meet every WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock P. M., in Room number eight, City Hall. Parties interested in any matter before the Committee will have an opportunity of being heard.

GEORGE A. JEREMIAH,
TERENCE FARLEY,
CHARLES H. HALL,
Committee on Sewers.

THE COMMITTEE ON LAMPS AND GAS of the Board of Councilmen will meet every WEDNESDAY, at 1 o'clock P. M., until further notice, in Room No. 5 City Hall, for the purpose of investigating all papers referred to them. All persons interested are respectfully requested to appear before the Committee without further notice.

ALEX. BRANDON,
JAMES MURRAY,
RICHARD O'BRIEN,
Committee on Lamps and Gas.

AUCTION SALES.

UNITED STATES MARSHAL'S SALE.

In the Circuit Court of the United States, District of Indiana, November Term, 1863.

Robert L. Cutting *vs.* the President and Directors of the Peru and Indianapolis Railroad Company, et al.

NOTICE is hereby given, that on the 15th day January, A. D. 1864, between the hours of ten o'clock in the forenoon and four o'clock in the afternoon of said day, at the Court-house, in the city of Indianapolis, County of Marion, and State of Indiana, the undersigned, the Marshal of the United States of the District aforesaid, by virtue of a certified copy of the decree rendered and made by the Court in the above entitled cause, issued by the Clerk of said Court, will sell at auction and public outcry, the following described property and rights of the said Peru and Indianapolis Railroad Company, to wit:

The Peru and Indianapolis Railroad, running and extending from Peru, in the County of Miami, and State of Indiana, through the Counties of Miami, Howard, Tipton, Hamilton and Marion, to the City of Indianapolis, in said County of Marion; and all and singular the land and real estate of which the said Railroad Company was, on the 5th day of March, 1856, or now is seized or possessed, together with all the land under and on each side of the track, to the whole width and extent that the said Company was or is seized or possessed of the same, together with the superstructure, tracks and rails thereon and the bridges, viaducts, fences, depot grounds, and buildings thereon, engines, cars, tools, materials, machinery, and all the personal property, rights thereto or interest therein of the said Company, and also all that certain piece of land extending from the termination of the said Railroad at Peru to the Lake Erie, Wabash and St. Louis Railroad, acquired or to be acquired by said Company, and the road built or to be built thereon, with the superstructure and rails placed or to be placed thereon, and all the depot grounds acquired or to be acquired, and all other property, real or personal, acquired or to be acquired by said Company, and also all the tolls, rents, and income to be had or levied from the said Railroad extending from Peru to Indianapolis and the extension thereof to the Lake Erie, Wabash and St. Louis Railroad, now called the Toledo and Wabash Railway Company, and all franchises, rights, and privileges of the said Peru and Indianapolis Railroad Company or, in, to, or concerning the same and any and every part thereof.

The rents and profits of said property will first be offered for sale, and, upon failing to realize a sufficient sum to satisfy the demand due upon said decree, I will, at the same time and place, in like manner offer for sale the fee simple of the property, effects, rights and franchises above described, ordered to be sold as the property of the said Peru and Indianapolis Railroad Company in the above-entitled suit.

The sale will be made without relief from the valuation and appraisement laws of the State of Indiana; and said property, &c., will be sold as an entirety, and subject to the prior and paramount lien of the deed of trust or mortgage executed by said Company on the 1st day of July, 1852, to James Winslow, as trustee, to secure the payment of the bonds of the Company, amounting to $500,000, and interest thereon, which interest, unpaid to the 1st day of July, 1863, amounted to $80,731 17, and also subject to the rights and claims of the judgment recovered by the Madison and Indianapolis Railroad Company against said Peru and Indianapolis Railroad Company, in the Fall of 1858, in the Circuit Court of Marion County, Indiana, for $7,557, until which judgment has been assigned to Francis B. Cutting. The purchase money must be paid at the time the property is struck down, and upon default the property may again be offered and sold, the purchaser so failing to pay being responsible for any loss upon the reoffering.

DAVID S. ROSE, U. S. Marshal.

Wm. Henderson, Hendricks & Hord, Attorneys for complainant.
Nov. 13, 1863.

EDWARD SCHENCK, Auctioneer.

ELEGANT CABINET FURNITURE.

PEREMPTORY SALE OF THE ENTIRE STOCK OF
F. BERLITZ, ESQ.,

who is retiring from business.

By EDWARD SCHENCK, on MONDAY and TUESDAY, Dec. 21 and 22, at 10½ A. M., at the warerooms No. 538 Hudson-st., corner of Charles-st. The entire elegant stock, consisting of elegant carved rosewood and mahogany suites, covered in hr. catel, moquet reps and haircloth; etagere, centre-tables, in oil; inlaid pier and card-tables, bedsteads, in rosewood and black walnut; elegant rosewood and mahogany and black walnut bedsteads, bureaus, commodes and washstands, easy and rocking chairs, reception chairs, lounges, in moquet and reps, elegant dining-room suites, in oak and black walnut, buffets, dining chairs, and a large assortment of every description of first-class furniture. The above may be examined at any time previous to the sale, which will be positive and without reserve. Purchasers can have their furniture packed and shipped in the best manner, or it may remain at the store free of charge until Jan. 1.

DANIEL H. BURDETT, Auctioneer.

UNITED STATES MARSHAL'S SALE.

BY BURDETT, JONES & CO.

By virtue of a writ of venditioni exponas to me directed and delivered, I will sell at public auction, on the 21st day of December, 1863, at 12 o'clock M., at the Union Stores, Brooklyn, the cargo of the prize steamer ELIZABETH, consisting of dry goods, shoes, leather, hardware, drugs, medicines, military equipments, clothing, blankets, tin-ware, &c., &c.

R. MURRAY,
Dec 11, 1863. U. S. Marshal.

DANIEL H. BURDETT, Auctioneer.

UNITED STATES MARSHAL'S SALE.

By BURDETT, JONES & CO.

BY VIRTUE OF A WRIT OF VENDITIONI EXPONAS, to me directed and delivered, I will sell by public auction, on the 9th day of December, at 11 o'clock A. M. at Shortland's Stores, north Pier, Atlantic Dock, Brooklyn—WHEAT—Four thousand nine hundred and twenty-two bushels Wheat.

ROBERT MURRAY,
United States Marshal.

ALBERT C. HAYWOOD, Auctioneer.

WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO-MORROW, (Monday,) Dec. 14, at 11 A. M., at the splendid private residence No. 123 East 16th-st., a few doors west of Broadway, all the elegant household furniture, consisting of dining-room, parlor and bedroom furniture, all first-class and made to order. Rich fashion ornaments suitable for holiday presents. Also, fine French plate, mantel mirror and one first-class rosewood piano-forte. Those wanting furniture will find this a rare opportunity to supply themselves. The entire stock valued at $16,000.

HENRY H. LEEDS & CO., Auctioneers.

HENRY H. LEEDS & CO. WILL SELL at auction, at the gallery of JOHN SNEDECOR, No. 788 Broadway, New-York, on FRIDAY EVENING, Dec 18, at 7½ o'clock,

A FINE COLLECTION OF OIL-PAINTINGS, BY
A. F. TAIT,

comprising Hunting and Fishing Scenes, Deer, Fawn, Quail, Woodcock, Grouse, Chickens, Dead Game &c. &c. Paintings now exhibiting from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M. daily.

E. H. LUDLOW, Auctioneer.

ASSIGNEE'S SALE, NOTES, BOOK ACCOUNTS, Judgments, &c.—E. H. LUDLOW & CO. will sell at auction on THURSDAY, Dec. 17, 1863, at 12 o'clock, at Exchange Sale-room, No. 111 Broadway, by order of Spencer K. Green and Samuel L. Burk, Assignees, the assets of Winston, Seaman & Co., consisting of notes, claims, book accounts, judgments, &c., a list of which may seen at the office of the auctioneers, No. 3 Pine-st.

ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE,
Corner G and 22d streets,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 25, 1863.

NOTICE.—WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION on WEDNESDAYS, the 9th and 23d December, 1863, at the Corral, near the observatory in this city, a lot of public horses and mules condemned as unfit for public service.

Terms cash in Government funds. Sale to commence at 10 o'clock A. M.

C. H. TOMPKINS,
Capt. and A. Q. M., U. S. A.

BULKLEY & FINK, Auctioneers.

BULKLEY & FINK WILL SELL ON WEDNESDAY, Dec. 16, at 12 o'clock, at the Merchants' Exchange sale-room, No. 111 Broadway, the four four-story brick stores and dwellings northeast corner of 11th-av. and 35th-st., each lot being 18 feet 6 inches by 70 feet deep.

HELP WANTED

A WET NURSE.—WANTED, AS WET NURSE, a healthy and highly respectable young American or English woman, with a supply of good milk. Any such person desiring an excellent situation, may apply, by note or in person, at No. 223 Union-st., Brooklyn. Unexceptionable references must be furnished.

WANTED—IN A BANKING HOUSE, A COMpetent young man who can write a handsome hand, and has an extensive acquaintance among the general jobbing trade of New-York. Address, with particulars, Box No. 2,272 New-York Post-office.

SALESMEN WANTED—TWO EXPERIENCED men, one in the woolen and one in the white goods department. Apply to LATHROP, LUDINGTON & CO., Nos. 25 and 25 Park-place.

WANTED—AT EAGLEWOOD MILITARY Academy, a Secretary and book-keeper, who will also teach classes in book-keeping. Apply after 12 on MONDAY, 14th, at No. 27 Park-place.

A SALESMAN.—WANTED, AN EXPERIENCED SALESMAN in the CLOTH JOBBING business. WHITE & HEATH, Nos. 84 and 86 Reade-st.

WANTED—MEN TO SELL THE OLD FRANKLIN ALMANAC.
Apply to
DICK & FITZGERALD, No. 18 Ann-st.

WANTED—A NUMBER OF INTELLIGENT, well-bred lads, about 14 years of age, as cash-boys; to those who bring good recommendations a liberal salary will be given. A. T. STEWART & CO.,
Broadway and 10th-st.

SHIPPING.

GALWAY LINE.
THE
ATLANTIC IRISH ROYAL MAIL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

ADRIATIC, 1,200 Horse-power, 4,000 Tons.
HIBERNIA, 1,000 Horse-power, 3,000 Tons.
COLUMBIA, 1,000 Horse-power, 3,000 Tons.
ANGLIA, 1,000 Horse-power, 3,000 Tons.

The magnificent side-wheel Steamship
COLUMBIA,
Capt. LEITCH,

will sail from NEW-YORK for GALWAY and LIVERPOOL, on TUESDAY, Dec. 15, to be followed by the HIBERNIA, from BOSTON, Dec. 29.

Rates of passage, payable in gold or its equivalent in currency: First Cabin, $80; Intermediate, $40; Steerage, $30. New York to St. Johns, $40, $50, $20.

Passengers forwarded also to London, Paris, Hamburg, Havre, Bremen, Rotterdam, Antwerp, &c., at lowest rates.

Fares from Liverpool or Galway to New-York and Boston, $30, $40, $85, $102.

For passage, apply to
SABEL & SEARLE,
No. 23 Broadway.

For rates of freight and specie, and all other information, apply to
LAWRENCE, GILES & CO.,
No. 11 South William-st.

THE BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIPS,
BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT CORK HARBOR.
AND BETWEEN BOSTON AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT HALIFAX AND CORK HARBOR.

SCOTIA leaves New-York Wednesday, Dec. 16.
CANADA leaves Boston Wednesday, Dec. 23.
AUSTRALASIAN leaves New-York Wednesday, Dec. 30.
ASIA leaves Boston Wednesday, Jan. 6.
CHINA leaves New-York Wednesday, Jan. 13.
AFRICA leaves Boston Wednesday, Jan. 20.

FROM NEW-YORK TO LIVERPOOL.
Chief Cabin Passage $132 50
Second Cabin Passage 80 00

FROM BOSTON TO LIVERPOOL.
Chief Cabin Passage $112 50
Second Cabin Passage 65 00

payable in gold, or its equivalent in United States currency.

Berths not secured until paid for.

An experienced Surgeon on board.

The owners of these ships will not be accountable for Specie or Valuables unless Bills of lading having the value expressed are signed therefor.

For freight or passage apply to
E. CUNARD, No. 4 Bowling-green.

NATIONAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

The undersigned will dispatch one of the undermentioned or other first-class full powered British built steamers from
NEW-YORK TO LIVERPOOL,
calling at Queenstown to land passengers and latest TELEGRAPHIC DISPATCHES.

Ship.	Tons.	Commander.	To sail.
VIRGINIA	2,76	Grace,	Friday, Dec. 18.

These steamers have been all built under the inspection of the Chief Surveyor to the Liverpool Underwriters' Registry of Iron Ships, they have extra water-tight compartments, and classed first-class for 22 years.

They are fitted up for first, second, and third-class passengers, which are charged at the following rates:

First Cabin ..... $100, 75 } Payable in Currency.
Steerage ..... 35 }

Dietary and accommodation unsurpassed by any other line of steamers.

For further particulars, apply to
WILLIAMS & GUION, No. 71 Wall-st.

NOTICE.

The steamship CITY OF CORK, of this line will sail as an extra steamer on THURSDAY, Dec. 17, has splendid accommodations for a few cabin and steerage passengers, at reduced rates, payable in U. S. Currency.

JOHN G. DALE, Agent.
No. 15 Broadway.

STEAM WEEKLY TO LIVERPOOL—Touching at QUEENSTOWN, (CORK HARBOR.) The well-known Steamers of the Liverpool, New-York and Philadelphia Steamship Company are intended to sail as follows:

ETNA ..... Saturday ..... Dec. 19
CITY OF WASHINGTON ..... Saturday ..... Dec. 26
EDINBURGH ..... Saturday ..... Jan. 2

and every succeeding Saturday, at Noon, from Pier No. 44, North River.

RATES OF PASSAGE.
Payable in Gold, or its equivalent in Currency.
First Cabin ..... $80 00 Steerage $30 00
First Cabin to London ..... 85 00 Steerage to London 34 00
First Cabin to Paris ..... 95 00 Steerage to Paris 40 00
First Cabin to Hamburg ..... 90 00 Steerage to Hamburg 37 00

Passengers also forwarded to Havre, Bremen, Rotterdam, Antwerp, &c., at equally low rates.

Fares from Liverpool or Queenstown: First Cabin, $75, $85, $95. Steerage, $30. Those who wish to send for their friends can buy tickets here at these rates.

For further information, apply at the Company's Offices,

JOHN G. DALE, Agent, No. 15 Broadway, New-York.

STEAM TO LONDONDERRY, GLASGOW AND LIVERPOOL.

The Montreal Steamship Company's first-class full-powered Clyde built steamer
CANADIAN,
GIBB, Commander,
carrying the Canadian and United States Mails, will sail from Portland next
SATURDAY, Dec. 12.

Rates of passage from New-York, First-class, according to accommodations, $85 and $75. Steerage, found with good provisions, $30, payable in Gold or its equivalent in United States currency. Certificates issued for bringing out passengers from all the principal towns in Great Britain and Ireland at very low rates. For passage apply at No. 21 Broadway, New-York.

SABEL & SEARLE, General Agents.

M. O. ROBERTS' LINE, VIA PANAMA,
FOR SAN FRANCISCO AND OREGON.
On WEDNESDAY, Dec. 23, at noon.
The first-class clipper-built full-rigged steamship
ILLINOIS, 2,000 tons,
the finest, fastest and largest steamship in the California trade, will sail as above, from the pier foot of Warren-st., North River.

For freight or passage, apply to
D. N. CARRINGTON, No. 177 West-st.

FOR HAVANA, DIRECT.

The U. S. Mail side-wheel steamship
EAGLE,
R. ADAMS, Commander,
will leave Pier No. 4 North River, on WEDNESDAY, Dec. 16, at 3 o'clock P. M. precisely, for Havana direct. All letters must pass through the Post-office. No freight received or bills of lading signed on the day of sailing.

For freight or passage apply to
SPOFFORD, TILESTON & CO.,
No. 29 Broadway.

FOR NEW-ORLEANS—DIRECT.

The new and first-class United States Mail Steamship
GEORGE CROMWELL,
Capt. JOHN A. POST,
will leave Pier No. 9 North River, on SATURDAY, Dec. 19, at 3 P. M.

Passage with unsurpassed accommodations, $60. No freight received or Bills of Lading signed on day of sailing. For freight or passage, apply to
H. B. CROMWELL & CO., No. 86 West-st.

ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP SCOTIA FOR LIVERPOOL.—The SCOTIA, C. H. E. Judkins, Commander, will sail from the Company's dock, at Jersey City, with the mails and passengers for Europe, on WEDNESDAY, 16th inst.

Passengers are requested to be on board by 10 o'clock A. M.

The AUSTRALASIAN will sail on the 30th inst.

E. CUNARD, No. 4 Bowling-green.

U. STATES PASSPORT BUREAU, No. 262 Broadway. Passports issued through J. S. NONES.

RAILROADS.

NEW-YORK & FLUSHING RAILROAD.

Leave New-York, at James-slip Ferry and 34th-st. Ferry, at 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7½.

Leave Flushing at 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 A. M.; 1, 3, 5, 6 and 7½ P. M.

N. B.—On TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS, a special night train leaves Flushing at 11 P. M., and from 34th-st. Ferry at 12 P. M.

HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD—FOR ALBANY, TROY, THE NORTH AND WEST—Trains leave

FROM CHAMBERS-ST.	FROM THIRTIETH-ST.
Express, 3 and 10 A. M., and 3:15 and 5 P. M.	7:22, 10:27 A. M. and 3:47 and 5:22 P. M.
Troy and Albany, (with sleeping car,) 10:30 P. M.	10:57 P. M.

On SUNDAYS, at 7:22 P. M., from 30th-st.

Tickets may be procured at any of the offices of Westcott's Express, in New-York and Brooklyn, and baggage checked at the house to all points on the road, and to Saratoga Springs.

LONG ISLAND RAILROAD—WINTER ARRANGEMENT, commencing Nov. 12, 1863.—Leave James-slip and 38th-st. Ferry, at 9 A. M., and on FRIDAYS and SATURDAYS at 4 P. M. Also, for Greenport, Sag Harbor, Hamptons, &c., stopping at all stations. For Islip at 7 A. M. and 4 P. M. For Syosset, at 9 A. M., 11 A. M. and 4 P. M. For Jamaica and Hempstead, at 9 and 11 A. M., at 4 and 5 P. M.

Sunday excursion trains to Islip, at 9:15 A. M., from 34th-st., stopping at all stations.

Fare for this train at excursion rates.

For Syosset, (on Sundays,) at 5:45 P. M., stopping at all stations.

A. M. ASONER, Superintendent.

ERIE RAILWAY.—PASSENGER TRAINS leave foot of Chambers-st.

7 A. M.—Express for Buffalo.
8:30 A. M.—Milk, daily, for Otisville.
10 A. M.—Mail, for Buffalo and intermediate stations.
4:15 P. M.—Way, for Port Jervis and Newburgh.
5 P. M.—Night Express, daily, for Dunkirk, Buffalo, Rochester, Canandaigua, &c. The train of Saturday runs through to Buffalo, but does not run to Dunkirk.

CHAS. MINOT, General Superintendent.

RARITAN AND DELAWARE BAY RAILROAD.—On and after Thursday, Sept. 10, the trains leaving New-York at 10:30 A. M., and Long Branch at 11:10 A. M., will be discontinued. On and after Monday, Sept. 14, the J. D. BEERS will leave foot of Murray-st., at 6:45 A. M., connecting with trains for all stations, and at 3 P. M., for Manchester, Toms River and intermediate stations.

B. S. SEYMOUR, Superintendent.

NEW-YORK, HARLEM AND ALBANY RAILROAD.—Increased accommodations. Trains for Albany, Troy, the North and West, leave 24th-st. Depot at 10 A. M. and 4:25 P. M.

Sunday trains leave New-York for Albany at 4:25 P. M., and Albany for New-York at 9:15 A. M.

JOHN BURCHILL, Superintendent.

NORTHERN R. R. OF NEW-JERSEY.—Trains leave Jersey City at 8:10 A. M., 9:15 A. M., 1:15 P. M., 4:20 P. M., and 6:05 P. M. The 9:15 and 4:20 run to Monsey.

Oct. 12, 1863.

THOS. W. DEM

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Board of City Canvassers.

THE ALLEGED ELECTION FRAUDS IN THE SIXTH WARD—CLOSE OF THE CANVASS.

The Aldermen, as City canvassers, met at 11 o'clock yesterday morning, the ninth day of the session. It was expected that Alderman WALSH would be present to read off the returns from the Sixth Ward, which were all the returns that remained to be canvassed, but illness, which has prevented his attendance on the previous day, still kept him confined to his house. Alderman [illegible] therefore selected to read off the returns from the Sixth Ward, which he did, and afterward he called attention to the protest from Alderman WALSH, which had been presented and laid over a few days before. Mr. HARDY said Mr. WALSH protested that the election in the Sixth District of the Sixth Ward, in the Fourth District of the Fourth Ward, and also in two or three other election districts in those Wards, had not been conducted fairly, and that frauds of various kinds had been committed. In support of these allegations, he would present affidavits of various parties, which had been intrusted to to him by Mr. WALSH. These affidavits showed that properly-made challenges had been disregarded by the Inspectors of Election; that in one case, a ballot for Mr. WALSH for Alderman had been received by an Inspector and thrown away upon the floor; and that in the Sixth District of the Sixth Ward, where Mr. WALSH had but 145 votes allowed him, over 200 persons had voted for him. The protest thus supported, he argued, should prompt the Board to investigate the alleged frauds, and if they should prove to be actual frauds, that the returns for Alderman in the Districts where the frauds were committed should be thrown out. This course, he continued, would be in accordance with the precedent given by the Board of County Canvassers in the case of BOSWORTH and MCCUNN. He thought the Board owed it to themselves and to the public to investigate the alleged frauds, and, being largely of the Democratic party, they owed a duty to that party to make the investigation. He believed that an investigation would be welcomed by Mr. JONES, the Alderman elect for the District, and also the powerful clique in it, of which Comptroller BRENNAN is the leader, in order that Mr. JONES might come into the next Board of Aldermen without any cloud of fraud hanging about his election.

Mr. JONES, the Alderman elect for the District, wished to be heard in the matter, and to afford him an opportunity to be heard and the Board to decide on the question, Mr. HARDY offered a resolution that a Committee of three be appointed to investigate the alleged frauds and report upon the subject as early as possible.

Mr. JONES then briefly addressed the Board, stating that he had counsel with him, but unless Mr. WALSH urged his side with counsel, he (Mr. JONES) would not permit counsel to appear for himself. He wished the alleged frauds might be investigated to the fullest extent, but he did no regard it either as the duty or as being within the province of this Board to inquire into them. Their business was with the returns alone, to count and compare them, and to have informalities or omissions corrected if any should be discovered.

If his election had been attended by fraud, the duty of inquiring into any alleged frauds and of deciding upon the validity of his election, belonged to the new Board of Aldermen; and if Mr. WALSH had been wronged, he had the courts to appeal to for redress.

Mr. HARDY's resolution was rejected by 7 to 3—Messrs. REED, MITCHELL and HARDY voting in the affirmative.

Alderman HALL then moved to return the protest to Mr. WALSH, stating in explanation of the motion, that as the Board did not wish to make use of it, Mr. WALSH ought to have it for use elsewhere, in case he should wish to pursue the subject further and seek elsewhere for an investigation of the alleged frauds.

Mr. HARDY objected to this, because he regarded the protest as the evidence upon which the members had just voted. Without the protest there existed no ground to show what reasons had influenced members in voting. The gentleman (Mr. HALL) might wish to efface the evidence by which he was guided in voting, but he ought not to do away with the evidence by which he (the speaker) had conscientiously felt himself compelled to give an affirmative vote. He knew nothing of the frauds alleged, except by the protest and accompanying affidavits, which he regarded as good ground for voting as he had, and if they were not kept in possession of the Board, no record would exist on their minutes to show why he had voted "aye."

The Board decided to return the protest, the vote on the question being the same as on Mr. HARDY's resolution.

The Board then adjourned till 2 o'clock P. M. on Monday, when the declaration of the results of the canvass will be made.

Aid for Soldiers' Orphans.

MEETING AT THE COOPER INSTITUTE—SPEECHES BY PROFESSOR MARTIN, THEODORE TILTON AND COL. WOOLFORD.

The first of a series of meetings announced to be given under the auspices of the National Literary Society of New-York, took place last evening in the hall of the Cooper Institute. Owing, no doubt, to the wretched state of the weather, a very small audience was in attendance, and less than a dozen gentlemen appeared upon the platform.

Mr. PROSPER M. WETMORE called the meeting to order. After regretting, in a few appropriate remarks, the sparseness of the congregation and the absence of some of the promised speakers of distinction, he introduced Professor MARTIN.

Prof. MARTIN commenced with a glowing tribute to the brave men who had faced death and danger in the cause of their country. He said the country owed a peculiar debt of gratitude to those who gave it their services in any great and perilous crisis. He referred to the inauguration of the National Cemetery at Gettysburgh, and declared it to be a noble tribute to those who had there laid down their lives upon the altar of patriotism. He would have the President's speech on that occasion—the speech of that President who had done a few of the noblest things that ever were done by the head of a great nation—he would have that brief speech inscribed on the gate of the cemetery; and he would have the name of every hero there buried so inscribed. We first went into the war, the speaker believed, to recover forts and arsenals, and to enforce certain laws among rebellious communities—not for liberty; but here has been a Providence which has shaped our ends in spite of us, and we now find ourselves, whether we will or no, fighting the battle of freedom. He would have us contend for freedom to all—not under the laws and the Constitution and Union as it was, but under a better Constitution and a better Union, and more equitable laws. Professor MARTIN's remarks were received with applause.

A resolution was thereupon offered by Mr. WETMORE, based on a suggestion from Professor MARTIN, that the Society he represented be instructed by the audience to respectfully invite the Legislature of New-York to take measures to perpetuate the memories of all the soldiers of New-York who fell at Gettysburgh. The audience adopted the resolution.

Mr. THEODORE TILTON was then introduced. He said the Legislatures of Massachusetts and Vermont had already passed laws for the purpose embodied in the resolution, so far as these States are concerned. Mr. TILTON went into a long and elaborate review of the Message of Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS. He especially drew on the lamentable tone of that document with regard to the relations of the Confederacy to toward foreign countries. He thought between the faultfinding of the North and the bitter complaints of the South, England would soon have the same number of friends as had the Cabinet of JAMES BUCHANAN. The rebel hope of foreign recognition grew weaker every day. England did not recognize the North and South united until after seven years of war. Would she recognize one insurgent section after only three years of war, mainly unsuccessful on its part? The United States Government must first recognize the independence of its own dependency, before Great Britain could be expected to do it. Mr. TILTON concluded with a powerful and eloquent denunciation of Slavery.

Col. WOOLFORD, commanding the One Hundred and Seventy-fifth New-York regiment, now with Gen. GILLMORE's army besieging Charleston, followed in a brief speech, when the meeting adjourned.

Murder in the Sixth Ward.

A MAN STABBED BY A NEGRO AND INSTANTLY KILLED—THE POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION, ETC.

About 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon a murder was committed in Worth-street, between Mission-place and Centre-street. JOHN KANE, a native of Ireland, aged about thirty years, was the victim. From the testimony, so far as adduced, we learn that about the time named above, JOHN KANE, the deceased, met a colored man, named HARKLESS LITTLE, in Worth-street, near Cow Bay. A quarrel ensued, and after some skirmishing, KANE chased the colored man into his own house, in Worth-street, near Mission-place. KANE here commenced an indiscriminate abuse, not only on LITTLE, but also on his wife and another female who were present. After some words had passed between the belligerents, KANE went up to LITTLE, and after various demonstrations around his face, he finally knocked him down. About this time one of the females undertook to leave the house for the purpose of procuring the assistance of the Police. She was also prostrated to the floor by KANE. The latter then went outside and commenced throwing brickbats at the windows. After breaking all the glass in the windows of the house on one side, KANE again went inside, where he made a sudden assault on LITTLE by striking him several times on the face and head with his fist. LITTLE became so incensed toward KANE for his re-attack upon him, that he caught hold of a carving-knife, the blade of which was about fourteen inches in length, and plunged it into KANE's left side, nearly to the handle. It passed entirely through the heart, and the victim fell to the floor dead. LITTLE fled through the rear yard of his premises immediately after having committed the deed. At a late hour last night he had not been arrested. Capt. JOURDAN, of the Sixth Precinct, has dispatched several men in search of him, and that officer says he has no doubt but that he can effect the arrest of the murderer.

The body of KANE was taken to the Sixth Precinct Station-house, where Dr. GEORGE B. BOUTON made a *post-mortem* examination last evening. The inquest will be held this morning by Coroner WILDEY.

The murderer LITTLE was arrested by the Twenty-seventh Precinct Police, at a late hour last night, and locked up. He will be brought before the Coroner, this morning, for examination, at the Sixth Precinct Station-house.

The Fire on the North River.

A FURTHER LIST OF VESSELS DESTROYED.

In addition to the list of boats heretofore published in the TIMES as having been totally destroyed in the great conflagration on the North River on Wednesday afternoon, we have to add the following:

Barges *Alanthus, John G. Spafford, Thomas G. Leach* and *Winona*. They were all heavily laden with grain, hay and other kinds of forage, mostly designed for the use of the Government. The boats and freight are a total loss. The names of the owners we have as yet been unable to ascertain, also the extent of the losses incurred. We also learn that the barge *Catharine*, freighted with a large number of stoves from a Troy manufactory, was destroyed with all her cargo. She was rated at 75 tons, and was fully laden. The value could not be ascertained.

There were quite a number of other boats and barges burned, but their names cannot be learned at present, owing to the fact that Mr. BRENNAN's (the wharfinger's) office on the pier, was burned, together with all his books and valuable papers.

It is worthy of mention that the tugs *George Birbeck, Starlight, Scranton, Forrest. Knickerbocker, Annie, Fulton, Morris* and *Lewis* were on hand and rendered very timely aid in towing vessels to the middle of the stream, thereby staying the progress of the flames down the river, and saving a vast amount of property.

All the piers within the burnt district, with the exception of the one at the foot of Charles-street, are a total wreck. Col. ROOME, the Superintendent of the Manhattan Gas Works, as soon as he learned the extent of the fire, dispatched a large gang of men to aid in staying the progress of the flames. These men worked with great energy, and had the courage to go amid the blaze and smoke where those unused to that kind of business would have been almost suffocated. Much property was saved by means of their assistance.

All the Fire Department did nobly. Hose Company No. 41, WM. SHIELDS, Foreman, was the second company on the ground, and had the first stream on, using it from the hydrant. It was through their exertions that the schooner at the dock near the foot of Charles-street was saved. The vessel was loaded with hay. All the others about her were destroyed, but No. 41 kept an almost steady stream on her, occasionally throwing it to the other side of the dock, on to the canal-boat *Varian*, which thus was also saved. Two of No. 41's men, Messrs. BRADSHAW and MATHEW, went overboard, receiving, fortunately, nothing more than a ducking. That, however, on such a cold night, was more than enough.

Important Arrest of a Counterfeiter.

The following are the particulars of the arrest on Friday, by Captain THORNE and Officer DYMER, of a man named WILLIS L. CLINTON, who, if all accounts are true, has been extensively engaged in circulating counterfeit fifty-cent United States postal currency. The arrest was mentioned yesterday.

From the testimony in the case it appears that the prisoner has recently had some business transactions with Mr. ROBERT F. KEWIN, of this City. Yesterday afternoon these two persons met, when CLINTON proposed to sell to KEWIN a quantity of fifty cent postal currency at a discount of forty cents on the dollar. KEWIN pretended that he was favorable to the proposition, and they adjourned to Mr. J. MCLAUGHLIN's place of business, No. 255 Broadway, with a view to perfect the negotiation. When they arrived there, KEWIN at once informed MCLAUGHLIN of the state of affairs, and Capt. THORNE was sent for. CLINTON was taken into custody and searched. On his person there were found $220 in counterfeit 50 cent United States postal currency, also $70 in good money. The counterfeits are well executed, and when they become worn and soiled, good judges cannot distinguish them from the genuine. CLINTON was delivered into the custody of the United States Marshal. He will be examined before a Commissioner.

The Bounty Sharks.

Gen HAYS is taking measures to save recruits from being fleeced by substitute brokers and bounty swindlers. He has issued the following excellent order to Provost-Marshals and recruiting officers:

OFFICE OF THE A. A. PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL, SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 11, 1863.

Provost-Marshals and all recruiting officers are hereby ordered not to swear in any recruit or veteran, unless said recruit or veteran receives the full bounty of three hundred dollars. The recruit or veteran to receive the money himself.

The Provost-Marshals and recruiting officers will make daily reports to these headquarters, with a certificate, as follows:

"I certify on honor that every recruit and veteran enlisted by me this day has received the three hundred dollars bounty."

Brig.-Gen. HAYS.
A. A. Provost-Marshal-General.

The Failing of Hecker's Bakery.

SUPERIOR COURT—TRIAL TERM.

Before Justice Mosserlet.

George St. Seabrook vs. *John Hecker*.—This was a case growing out of the failing of HECKER'S Bakery in November, 1862, and was reported in the TIMES of the 10th. At the conclusion of the evidence for the plaintiff, Mr. CURTIS NOYES, for the defence, moved to dismiss the complaint on the ground that, by the showing of plaintiff's own witnesses, there was not and could not have been any negligence by defendant in erecting the stack of ovens which fell. The motion was granted. W. A. COUSSEN and Mr. CLARK for plaintiff; JOHN N. LEWIS, BENS. V. ABBOTT and WM. C. NOYES for defendant.

Scientific.

POLYTECHNIC ASSOCIATION OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE.

The regular weekly meeting was held on Thursday evening, Prof. TILLMAN in the Chair. BENJ. GARVEY Secretary. During the hour devoted to miscellaneous business, Dr. STEVENS, the eminent Geologist of this State, gave the Association a very interesting lecture upon the Gold Fields of the North American Continent.

He said the presence of gold in auriferous sands in Canada East, has long been known to the public, but the extent of this auriferous deposit has not been fully explored until the present season. The vally of the Chaudiere River has been supposed to be the limits of the paying deposit. It is now known to extend from Lake Champlain eastward to the Bay of Newfoundland, and from the south shore of the St. Lawrence to the sources of all the streams flowing into it, a large part of Vermont and the northern part of Maine are consequently included in this region. No quartz veins have, as yet been discovered, but the gold is found in drift deposits, generally in a bed of gravel, reposing upon rock, and covered with beds of clays, sands and gravels more or less, from a few feet to many hundred in thickness. One acre of gold washings have yielded 4,987 pennyweights of metal. The Chaudiere, St. Francis, Lute St. Francis, Rivière des Plantes, Rivière du Loup, Lake Massawippi and Little Magog, have been among the most fruitful localities in Canada. In Vermont, the Barton and other rivers flowing into Lake Memphramagog, the Missisquoi, Lamoille, Onion, Otter rivers and their tributaries have been successfully explored for this metal.

It is not confined however to the region above described. It is found on the slopes of the Appalachin Mountains from Vermont to Georgia. It is also found in all the deposits of clay and gravel of the entire United States. There is hardly a stream in our whole country but what one can find gold if he look long and carefully enough. I have seen it, said the speaker, in Ohio, Illinois, Michigan and many places in New-York. Gold may be said to be everywhere present, as much so as iron. And the reason is, that gold and iron pyrites are always associated together, and when the pyrites is decomposed, and the iron leaving the combination of sulphuret and becoming an oxide, the gold is liberated; consequently, any soil derived from the decomposition of rocks containing pyrites, may contain gold in appreciable, though not always paying quantities. If California gold is found in three distinct formations: First, in veins running north and south, which are of the softest and purest gold; second, in veins running northeast and southwest, which is largely mixed with platina, copper, &c., &c.; third, veins running east and west are found the widest, and containing admixtures of gold, also lead, copper and iron, which are quite impure. The Doctor said that the Assay officers at the Philadelphia Mint assert that there is more gold under the earth in the City of Philadelphia than the entire quantity now in circulation in the world. He gave an interesting account of the farmer who went to California to dig gold enough to pay off a mortgage on his farm. After he had accomplished his mission he returned, and having obtained a practical insight into mining, went to work on his own farm to find gold, and the result was that, with the assistance of his son and an ordinary tin pan, he gathered fifteen dollars per day.

The remarks were received with applause by the Association.

Mr. WARMBURY exhibited to the Association his newly patented iron shot, which in shape is the same as the "Minié." The principle of this ball is to expand an attachment of leather into the rifling, instead of the lead, as is the case with the "Minié" ball, the rear of which is softened by the heat from the discharge and leaves a portion of the lead in the rifling. By this principle of expanding the attachment and the use of a meterial like leather, which is antifriction, the barrel is buffed, cleaned and oiled at each and every discharge, and iron or glass can be fired with destructive effect upon the enemy and without the slightest injury to the barrel of the rifle. In answer to a question, he said that to prevent their rusting that he proposed to galvanize them with a solution of zinc. He said they could be furnished a half cheaper than lead, and that the leather made it gastight, and consequently, with one-third less powder the same results were obtained.

Mr. STETSON explained the generally adopted opinions in regard to the forms and materials of projectiles. Long projectiles could not be made to travel end foremost until rifling was invented. Rifle grooves were first straight—a mere experimental whim of some gunmaker, and it would seem quite an absurd one; but a trial with the same arranged spirally, developed a new era. The whirling motion steadied the position of the ball, and thenceforth pointed bullets could be used, and kept point foremost while flying. Lead was better than iron, because denser; a lead ball would fly further and sink deeper than an iron one. Iron might be elongated so much as to give the same weight for a given resistance as lead, but very long balls were difficult to steady, even with a very quick twist of the rifle. Mr. WHITWORTH's rifle cannon projectile was very long and slender, but it was compelled to rotate *three hundred times in a second*. With all modern rifling, very long projectiles were liable to tumble, or turn end over end, and in such condition would refuse to fly far or accurately, however strongly thrown.

Lead cannon balls had been fired in a few instances in actual warfare, and the effect was very destructive at short ranges. Lead was *the* thing for small arms. In cannons it was liable to crush and become deformed by the force of the explosion.

Rifle cannon projectiles were always elongated, and made of iron or steel. Coating them with fibrous material was patented by the late Gen. JAMES in 1856, and had been shown in the English patent of ARMSTRONG in 1851. Coating such projectiles with lead had been practised in both countries earlier still. It was now a principal feature in the favorite HOTCHKISS rifle cannon projectile. HOTCHKISS made it expand by a kind of wedging action. The SCHENKL rifle cannon projectile, much used in the beginning of this war, argued both for and against Mr. WARMBURY's invention—in favor of its practicability, but against its novelty. SCHENKL had a thick ring or sabot of papier-maché on a conical rear end of his projectile, and drove it forward and expanded it into the rifle grooves in the act of discharging. It came off on leaving the projectile, and the iron portion flew very well. It injured the range and the correctness of shooting to keep any such thing attached to a shot while it flew. It always projected past the body of the ball and made resistance. The minie ball expanding by the action of the powder in its hollow rear, was a universal favorite in all the great military countries. It swelled not at the rear alone, but along almost the entire body, and held the axis of the bullet coincident with the axis of the barrel. Without such swelling, the bullet being necessarily smaller than the ball, its centre of gravity would describe a spiral in traversing the barrel of the gun, and fly offinally on one of the sides of a cone, instead of following the prolonged axis of the rifle.

shooting requires that the centre of gravity of the ball shall be moved along in the axis of the bore, and this cannot be effected if any sensible looseness is allowed. This bullet is a miniature and modified form of SCHENKL's projectile, but might have peculiar merits. He urged the inventor not to be discouraged because some one had used something analogous, but bring forward his bullet fully prepared with the sabot or leather, or leather ring fastened as he intended to have it. Several of the members expressed their favorable opinions on the merits of Mr. WATERBURY's invention, and on motion it was referred to a Committee.

The regular subject being called, the Chairman of the Committee—Prof. EVERETT—to whom was referred the subject of "Lead Pipe," to make a chemical report thereon, reported progress.

Dr. PERCY, of this City, gave his views of the injurious effects produced upon the system by habitually using water drawn through lead pipes. He cited many instances where families had been poisoned, and died from drinking water that had stood over night. He had, in connection with Prof. TORREY, found lead in water at the ratio of one grain to the pint, and that water drawn from pipes where it had stood but a short hour.

He did not enter at length upon the subject, and gave the views of many of our most prominent chemist.

Prof. EVERETT remarked that people in Boston had nearly ceased to use lead pipe, and were using iron pipe, and pipe lined with glass.

Mr. CLINTON ROSEVELT remarked that the mode of manufacture of this improved tin-lined lead pipe was thoroughly discussed at the last meeting, and the manner of making pronounced perfect. He was of the same opinion as the medical gentleman who had just spoken, and said, if we can have a perfect tinned pipe that will obviate all the danger of poison, and at the same time furnished as cheap as the lead, he saw no reason why it should not have the preference and become generally used. Dr. RICH, Prof. GARVEY and others expressed the same views.

A motion to adjourn being made, Mr. J. K. FISHER offered a resolution, which was adopted, that a committee be appointed to examine the various kinds of boilers that were said to defy explosions. The Chairman appointed Messrs. FISHER, GARVEY and ROWELL such committee. Adjourned to Thursday evening next, when the same subject and the "Bursting of Guns" will be continued.

Court of Sessions.

The Recorder yesterday passed sentence upon the following persons, convicted during the month:

WM. THOMPSON, (colored,) for assault with a dangerous weapon upon JACOB JONES, State Prison three years and four months.

JANE ENGLE, for assault and battery upon MARY ANN MULLEN, Penitentiary one year.

JOHN GILLIGAN, for forgery in the fourth degree, Penitentiary four months.

The Court adjourned to Monday morning at 11 o'clock.

The Kings County Supervisors.

ANOTHER BOUNTY APPROPRIATION.

The Board of Supervisors of Kings County held a special meeting yesterday afternoon, at which another appropriation of $250,000 for the paying of the volunteers was made. The matter of presenting a memorial and act to the next Legislature, for authority for this and the previous loans, was referred to the Committee on Laws.

Concert of the Union Home School.

A large audience assembled Thursday, in the Academy of Music to listen to a delightful concert given by one hundred and twenty-five children from the Union Home School, situated on Fifty-seventh-street, west of Eighth-avenue. Several distinguished guests were present—among the number Gen. ANDERSON and Gen. WALLACE. The programme included fine selections from some of the most celebrated composers. Many of the songs, duets and choruses were admirably executed by mere infants. The skill and training of the children was truly wonderful. The song, "Do they think of me at home," by Miss SOPHY MACHMAN, could not have been better rendered by any professional of her age. A medley sung by the school and choir was loudly applauded. During the evening Gen. WALLACK was called on for a speech. He appeared and made a few remarks, applicable to the occasion, which were loudly cheered. The entertainment was projected by the managers of the Union Home School, to raise sufficient funds to enlarge their institution, which has been established especially for the maintenance of the children of our volunteers. Great credit is due to the managers for the thoroughly systematic arrangement of the "business" of the stage. At a late hour the audience dispersed, highly pleased with the evening's entertainment.

GENERAL CITY NEWS.

A DRUG EXCHANGE.—In addition to the numerous business centres, already established in this City, namely: The Regular Stock Exchange, Public Stock Board, Evening Stock Board, Mining Exchange, Produce Exchange, Coal Exchange, Petroleum Exchange, Builders' Exchange, Gold Exchange, and two or three Merchants' Exchanges, we will soon have a Drug Exchange. A meeting to organize one was held Thursday afternoon at the Merchants' Exchange, Pine-street. The call had been numerously signed, and there was quite a number of importers of, dealers and brokers in drugs, dyes, chemicals, &c., present. The meeting was called to order by Mr. C. RECKNAGEL, and organized by the election of Mr. S. B. SCHIEFFELIN as Chairman and Mr. S. W. BULL as Secretary. A resolution, by Mr. J. H. BAKER, that it was expedient to establish a Drug Exchange, as proposed in the call, was unanimously adopted. It was resolved that the first regular meeting be held on Monday, Dec. 14, at 12 o'clock M. On motion of Mr. BAKER, of H. J. BAKER & BROTHER, it was resolved that the Chair appoint a Committee of three on Permanent Organization and on Arbitration. The Chair appointed Messrs. H. J. BAKER, Y. B. MERRICK and J. L. RIKER such Committee; after which the meeting adjourned.

OUR PUBLIC EVENING SCHOOLS.—The public are probably not aware of the great good these Institutions of our City are accomplishing. Thousands of boys and girls who are obliged to work during the day are thus obtaining a good English education, and many will be ornaments to society, who, but for these schools, would only have a street education, with all its debasing influences. Thanks to our Board of Education for sustaining them. Occasionally, entertainments are provided for some of these Schools by the local Trustees. One of these occurred on Thursday evening, at the school gathered in the School Building No. 20, on Twelfth-street, near Avenue B. Nearly 600 pupils were present on Thursday evening, and the discipline is seldom excelled in our day schools. The singing was also superior. Magic Lantern views were presented by Messrs. SUTHERLAND and STOUT. Addresses were made by Trustee SLOTE, H. D. SMITH, of Boston, and Mr. STOUT. The Trustees of this Ward and Miss BUCKNER, and her fine corps of fifteen assistants, are deserving of credit for the good they are accomplishing. We can only add, "gather them in" to the evening schools.

ATTEMPT TO KIDNAP A COLORED MAN IN BROADWAY.—Officer DUSENBURY, of the Detective force, yesterday afternoon, while passing through Broadway, saw two men engaged in taking a colored man into their custody. The official made inquiries as to the cause of their proceeding, when the two men gave their names as JOHN W. DUNN and MATTHIAS DAVIS. They said they were taking the colored man on the charge of hindering enlistments in the Negro brigade. They professed their willingness to go to Police Headquarters, and make a complaint against him. On the way thither, however, they tried to run away, and made their escape to Lafayette Hall, where they were both arrested. The colored man and his captors were taken to the Central Office, where a preliminary examination was had, and it then became evident that DUNN and DAVIS had seized the negro, (whose name is MOSES BROWN, recently from St. Louis,) with the intention of getting him enlisted in the Spinola brigade, thereby securing to themselves the bounty offered to recruits. The offenders were committed for examination.

FIRE IN YORKVILLE.—As Officer MYERS, of the Twenty-third Precinct, was making his rounds Friday night about 12 o'clock, he heard an explosion, and his attention was drawn to a fire issuing from the paint store of JOHN TURNER, No. 171 East Eighty-sixth-street. The alarm was immediately given, and the building being wood was soon enveloped in flames. The fire spread to the building adjoining, occupied by J. J. FRANCIS, as a tailor shop, and soon gained such headway as to threaten the Post-office and in fact the whole block. Mr. TURNER lost his whole stock, valued at $1,000; insured for $500; building owned by CHARLES GAYLOR; loss, $1,800; insured. No. 169 was owned by JOHN FALNEY, loss, $1,800; insured for $700. The most of Mr. FRANCIS' goods and furniture were saved, and his loss is about $500. Several suspicious characters were seen about the premises just before the fire, and as no fire or light had been used, it was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary.

RELIEF FUND OF THE LADIES' HOME.—On Tuesday evening next a grand musical and literary soirée takes place at the Academy of Music, for the benefit of the Ladies' Home for Sick and Wounded Soldiers. The amount of good already done by this excellent institution is incalculable, and our citizens should see to it that the funds are replenished, so that it may continue its members passed and unrestricted in its noble and Christian work. The estimable ladies who make the Home their charge are self sacrificing and unwearying in their administration, and all that kindly hearts and womanly impulses can suggest for the brave sick and wounded is afforded them. The entertainments on Tuesday evening will be very attractive, distinguished artists generously volunteering, but these will not afford a tithe of such pleasure to the ear, as would the purchase of ten tickets to the heart.

THE NEW-YORK HALF ORPHAN ASYLUM.—Those who are desirous of contributing to this noble charity are cautioned against giving donations to parties who are unauthorized to receive them. A number of instances have recently occurred where swindles have been perpetrated extensively. The following are the officers of this institution, who will be pleased to receive donations, and properly apply them: Mrs. Robert L. Stuart, First Directress, No. 54 Fifth-avenue; Mrs. William G. Bull, Second Directress, No. 75 Ninth-street; Mrs. Daniel D. Lord, Third Directress, No. 45 West Nineteenth-street; Mrs. John N. Bradley, Treasurer, No. 9 East Fourteenth-street; Mrs. George D. Phelps, Secretary, No. 193 Madison-avenue.

LIBERALITY DURING THE RECENT GREAT FIRE.—During the great fire in West-street last week, the host of gallant firemen on hand to quench it were liberally refreshed with ale by Col. PAICE, of the First cavalry regiment, New-York State National Guard, who has a brewery in the vicinity. The generous Colonel gave the beverage without stint, inviting the fire laddies to use all they desired. The offer was cheerfully accepted; over thirty barrels of ale were disposed of by the liberal Colonel, and when the gallant firemen found either food or drink most timely. The act they fully appreciated.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO AN OLD RESIDENT OF THE FIFTH WARD.—JOHN BESSON, residing at No. 190 Franklin-street, died yesterday, from the result of injuries received on Tuesday last by accidentally falling down a hatchway at No. 195 Reade-street. The deceased was about sixty-five years of age. For forty years he has resided in the Fifth and Eighth Wards, and has long been known as an active and efficient member of the Board of Education. The funeral will take place at 2 o'clock this P. M. from his late residence.

ST. ANN'S CHURCH, in this City, is endeavoring to continue the good work which is begun for deaf mutes at the Institution. Quite a large number of educated adult deaf mutes have settled down in this community to earn their living. These persons have opportunities of public worship and religious instruction at St. Ann's Church every Sunday. The church still needs means from without, a portion of which it is hoped that the Annual Fair in progress this week, at No. 806 Broadway, will be instrumental in obtaining.

SIXTEENTH ARTILLERY.—Another detachment of this fine organization reached here last evening from Albany barracks, numbering two hundred men, commanded by Capt. C. E. PEARCE, of Auburn, N. Y., en route for Yorktown, Va., most of whom are veterans. They were quartered at the Park Barracks, and leave by transport to join their regiment, now at that place, which is rapidly filling up. Col. J. J. MORRISON is well known among our military men as its able commander.

COMPLIMENT TO A REPORTER.—Mr. E. P. WINANS, Commercial Reporter of the *Commercial Advertiser*, since 1848, leaves for Europe on Saturday next, for the benefit of his health. He carries with him the best wishes of a host of friends, professional and otherwise. The Produce Exchange Association, on Friday last, voted Mr. WINANS, a check for $250 as a slight token of their esteem and respect for him.

FIRE IN EAST TWENTY-SIXTH-STREET.—The dying establishment of Mr. JOSEPH SORIA, No. 199 East Twenty-sixth-street, took fire at 7½ o'clock last evening, from a defective flue in the drying-room. The two upper stories of the building were badly damaged, and the stock consumed. Damage to building, $1,500; not insured. Damage to stock not known, but said to be quite heavy; insured in the Rutgers Fire Insurance Company.

FIRE IN GREENWICH-STREET.—Last night, about 8 o'clock, the five-story building No. 282 Greenwich-street, occupied by FRANCIS C. HALL & Co., as a crockery store, was discovered to be on fire. The firemen were promptly on the spot, and saved the adjacent property, but the damage to the building in which the fire originated cannot be less than $20,000. Supposed to be insured.

HERE AND AWAY AGAIN.—Skaters came to grief yesterday morning on finding that the hopes of Friday of "glorious sport" were so short-lived. But a few hours of enjoyment were had, just enough to make strong the appetite for more, when away went Jack Frost, up ran the mercury, down came the snow and rain, and off began to go the ice. It was, indeed, too bad; a provoking reminder of last Winter—perhaps a prophetic one.

ELECTION JUBILEE.—The friends of Mr. JOHN HEALY, present Councilman and Councilman elect, had a jubilant gathering yesterday afternoon at No. 11 Dover-street, where a large table was bountifully spread with an abundance of good things, which were eaten and drank amid much hilarity and good cheer over the fact of his reëlection by a large majority.

ASSAULT ON POLICEMEN.—About 12 o'clock on Friday night, Officers PERRY and HOAGLAND, of the Seventeenth Precinct, while in the discharge of their duty, in Thirteenth-street, near First-avenue, were assaulted and badly beaten by a gang of rowdies, numbering over thirty. The officers were cut and bruised in a cruel manner about the head and face. The assailants have not been arrested.

UNITED STATES CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.—This excellent organization is receiving the support which its merits claim. Religious societies of every denomination dispense of their abundance to forward its aims. JAMES M. BROWN, Esq., Treasurer of the New-York Committee, acknowledges the receipt, since the 28th ult., of cash to the amount of $4,262 34.

NEW-YORK AND NEW-HAVEN STEAMBOATS—WINTER ARRANGEMENTS.—After the present week the 11 o'clock night boat to New-Haven will be withdrawn for the Winter. Boats will leave New-York at 3:15 P. M., and leave New-Haven returning at 11 P. M. Railroad trains leave New-Haven, going north and east, at 11 P. M.

OCEAN STEAMERS SAILED.—The following ocean steamers sailed yesterday: *Saxonia*, for Hamburgh, with a full complement of passengers, and the *City of New-York*, for Liverpool. The latter steamer takes out $1,107,573 in specie,

EMIGRANT STEAMERS ARRIVED.—The *Virginia*, before reported, arrived yesterday from Liverpool, and landed at Castle Garden 451 emigrants. The steamer *Celtic*, from London, via Havre, arrived on the same day with 847.

Report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

The principal points of this report were presented in the report of Secretary CHASE, already published, and as the pressure on our columns is so great, we confine our allusions to the presentation of the chief features of the document.

The Commissioner remarks that although the amount of revenue has not equaled the estimates whilom of the Bureau, yet he deems no radical changes in the system of taxation necessary, because the capacity of the system to produce revenue has not yet been fully developed. The actual receipts of the internal revenue office from all sources, between Sept. 30, 1862, and June 30, 1863, were $36,586,304 50; and up to Sept. 1, 1863, they were $17,489,473 03; and the estimate for the year ending Sept. 30, last, is sixty-five millions of dollars. The decrease in the expense of collection and assessment will another year be ten millions less, if the law remains without material change, and this, added to the probable results of the Commissioner's recommendations in regard to increased taxes on whisky, tobacco, liquors, &c., will increase the revenue for the year 1864 to $92,000,000.

Some of the recommendations of the Commissioner are: To exempt the dividends of Life Insurance Companies from the Income Tax, and substituting for it a stamp duty of fifty cents for every thousand dollars of insurance; an increase of the tax upon distilled liquors to sixty cents per gallon; upon malt, of thirty cents per bushel; or if not upon malt, then upon beer, of one dollar and fifty cents per barrel; the provisions of the law regarding the exportation of petroleum should be so changed as to more completely protect the people of this country against a discrimination now made in favor of all other nations. Tobacco is purely a luxury, and a large increase of the tax is recommended. As the production is still so far short of the demand, this increase is not thought likely to affect the foreign demand. It is suggested that tobacco in the leaf be taxed twenty cents per pound in the hands of the producer—five, ten or twelve cents more when manufactured. As people will drink wine, and as to drink good wine is more conducive to morality than to drink liquors, a light tax of ten cents per gallon on all native wines is recommended; mineral waters, sodas, sarsaparillas, &c., should pay two cents per dozen if half pint bottles, four cents per dozen if pint bottles, and one cent per bottle of greater capacity, or in lieu of any of the above five per cent. *ad valorem*. Gold watches, pianos, dogs, diamonds and other high-priced articles kept for use or ornament should be taxed. Cotton must pay more—two cents, instead of half a cent per pound; auction sales ought to be increased to one-fourth of one per cent.; boards planed, tongued and grooved, shingles, bricks, Roman cement, calcined plaster, draining tiles, dressed buildings tone, printers' ink, maps, charts, periodical publications other than newspapers, and engravers' work, should pay an *ad valorem* duty; slaughtered animals from five to thirty cents per head, according to age; swine ten cents. The amendment of the law relating to the taxation of manufactures is recommended, so that all productions or manufactures used or consumed by the producers or manufacturers thereof, being articles of commercial value, and which would be taxable if sold, shall be in like manner taxable when used or consumed.

The income tax is so fair in its operations, that no material changes are recommended; the provision allowing a deduction for rent of houses should be stricken out, and people residing in their own houses should be charged with their rental value as income; large incomes should pay more; incomes over five thousand dollars ($5,000) and less than ten thousand dollars ($10,000) in amount to four per cent. tax, and those over ten thousand dollars ($10,000) and less than twenty thousand dollars, ($20,000,) to five per cent., and those exceeding twenty thousand dollars ($20,000,) to five and a half or six per cent. Stamp duties on documents should embrace a larger class.

It is proposed to levy a duty upon receipts for the payment of money, equal to one-half the duty now required on checks and sight drafts.

The Commissioner further recommends that the stamp duties on promissory notes, inland bills, drafts, and orders, and also mortgages and personal bonds for the payment of certain sums of money be doubled; that the stamp duties on agreements or contracts other than those specified in the schedule be ten cents; that the words "exceeding twenty dollars" be stricken from the clause relating to bank checks, drafts, or orders; that the stamp duties on life, marine, and inland insurance policies be doubled; that those on leases be proportioned to the rent received and the length of the term; that to letters of attorney to do single acts, be assigned a moderate duty more appropriate to the nature of the service to be performed than now provided; and that writs, summonses, and other processes for the commencement of actions before Justices of the peace, in cases of civil jurisdiction, and writs of execution, also issued by such Justices for the seizure or sale of goods, be made subject to a small stamp duty.

The report recommends a tax upon the tonnage receipts of railroad and steamboat companies, and upon the dividends of telegraph companies; also, a tax of two and one-fifth per cent. instead of one per cent. on the circulation of banks, of one-fifth of one per cent. on deposits instead of one eighth, and of one twentieth of one per cent. on sales at brokers' boards.

Some additional means of facilitating collections is suggested in the shape of an amendment to confer civil jurisdiction on commissioners appointed or to be appointed by the Circuit Courts, where the sum in controversy does not exceed a certain limit to be named in the laws, that limit might be safely fixed at two hundred and fifty or three hundred doll